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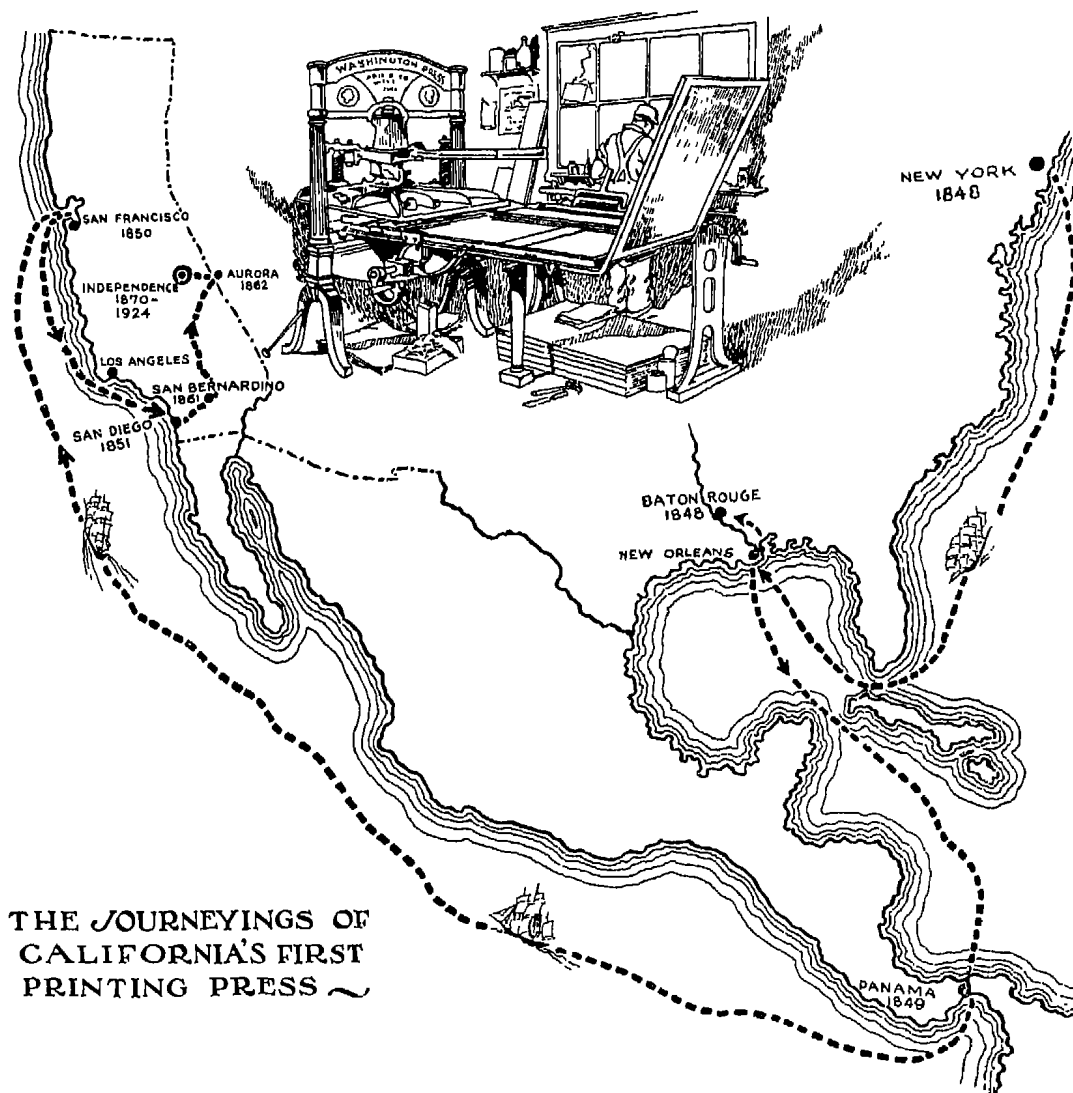
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SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Vol. 17

June, 1926

No. 6



THE JOURNEYINGS OF
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Contents

ARTICLES

Bank and Adult Education. By K. Dorothy Ferguson	241
California's Program for Co-ordination of Research. By Washington L. Connolly.....	200
California State Library—Its Special Features. By Milton J. Ferguson	205
Commercial and Economic Research in Southern California. By J. J. McBride.....	202
Our Pacific Coast Associations	207
Practical Value of Industrial Research. By Ford A. Carpenter	198
Street Railways and Research. By C. A. Copper	204



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Contents—continued

LIBRARIES OF CALIFORNIA

Alameda County Medical Library.....	233	Los Angeles Times	237
Architecture and Allied Arts	223	Mechanics'-Mercantile Library.....	251
Architecture Library, University of Southern California	248	Mercantile Trust Co.....	239
Associated Oil Co.....	228	Mount Wilson Observatory.....	226
Barlow Medical Library.....	233	Pacific Coast Gas Association.....	217
California Academy of Sciences.....	223	Pacific Gas and Electric Co.....	219
California Institute of Technology.....	224	Pacific Telegraph & Telephone Co.....	219
California State Fisheries.....	212	San Diego Consolidated Gas and Elec- tric Co.	222
California State Library.....	205	San Diego County Medical Library.....	235
California State Mining Bureau	213	San Diego Scientific Library	225
California and Hawaiian Sugar Refining Corporation	228	San Francisco Bulletin.....	237
Commonwealth Club	217	San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.....	216
Famous Players-Lasky Corporation.....	242	San Francisco Chronicle.....	238
Federal Reserve Bank.....	239	San Francisco County Medical	235
Fire Underwriters Association.....	217	San Francisco Public Library.....	247
First National-Pacific-Southwest.....	240	Security Trust & Savings Bank.....	242
Fiske Library, University of California, Southern Branch	248	Shell Company of California	229
Fox Studio	243	Southern California Edison Co.	220
General Petroleum Corporation.....	229	Southern Pacific Railroad	221
Henry E. Huntington Library	208	Standard Oil Co. of California— El Segundo	232
Hoose Library, University of Southern California	249	Standard Oil Co. of California—Rich- mond	231
Hoover War Library.....	209	Standard Oil Co. of California—San Francisco	230
Lane Medical Library	234	Union Oil Co.....	232
Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.....	214	United States Bureau of Mines, San Francisco Office.....	214
Los Angeles Examiner.....	236	United States Forest Service.....	213
Los Angeles Gas and Electric.....	221	Universal Pictures Corporation	245
Los Angeles Museum.....	224	Western Precipitation Co.	228
Los Angeles Public Library.....	246		



LOS ANGELES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Contents—*continued*

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

American Statistical Association, Los Angeles Chapter	250
Research on the Pacific Coast	254
Western Statistical Association	250

DEPARTMENTS

Associations	255	Events and Publications	259
Editor's Desk	258	Personal Notes	262
Editorials	252	We Do This	257



READING ROOM BARLOW MEDICAL LIBRARY

Special Libraries

Vol. 17

June, 1926

No. 6

ISSUED BY
THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

California Number

EDITOR

Herbert O. Brigham
State Library, Providence, R. I.

SPECIAL EDITOR

Rolland A. Vandegrift
544 So. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.

CALIFORNIA is making rapid strides in the development of literature. A section of the country rich in historic lore, it is building with surprising rapidity some libraries of real magnitude in the field of literature. The Henry B. Huntington library is famed on two continents and the Hoover War Library is a recent library development of distinction. The recent transfer of the library of the late John Fiske to the University of California is in truth a significant event.

In the special library field there are notable evidences of achievement. As one turns the pages of this magazine he will observe stories of special libraries in many fields of endeavor. In this number we have attempted to group the sketches of these various libraries in order that similar types may be easily noted. The four articles on Research in California are of unusual value, as the writers in every case are authorities in their particular field, and these readable stories indicate the extraordinary growth of research on the Pacific coast. Working in friendly relations with these special libraries are the large public libraries in Los Angeles and San Francisco and, above all, the California State Library which exercises a strong influence on the library movement throughout the state.

The California material was compiled by Mr. Rolland A. Vandegrift, Research Director of the California Taxpayers' Association.

The San Francisco Association, under the direction of Mr. William A. Worthington, selected Miss Margaret Hatch to prepare copy for the editor. Many others ably assisted Mr. Worthington and Miss Hatch in this undertaking.

In southern California Miss Josephine B. Hollingsworth, of the Science Department of the Public Library, took charge of advertising and credit should also be given to Mr. Guy E. Marion, Miss Anna F. Frey, Miss Lenore Green, Mr. Byron E. Edwards and Miss Rose M. Purcell for valuable assistance.

We are deeply indebted to the Special Libraries Association of San Francisco and the Special Libraries Association of Southern California for their invaluable work in preparing this issue.

Practical Value of Industrial Research

By Dr. Ford A. Carpenter, Manager, Department of Meteorology and Aeronautics, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce

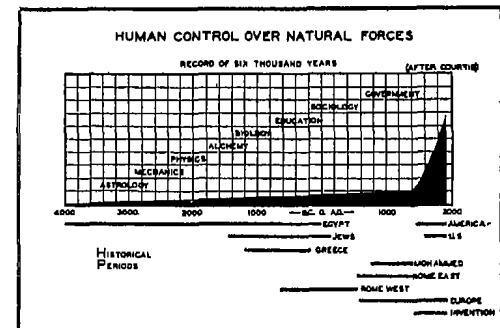
THERE is no doubt whatever that the Great War put such a decided crimp into scientific research abroad that it has taken until the present year to even partially recover from the terrible set-back. While recovery has been very slow in Europe, where practicalized investigation was at high water-mark in 1914, in the United States the war brought this young country into full realization of the possibilities of commercial research. The history of the world shows no parallel to the magnificent work of engineering research along chemical, economic and transportation lines as was carried on during the last year of the war.

Could international jealousies permit, foreign countries would freely admit that while we were deplorably late in entering the great conflict, it was Yankee ingenuity and resourcefulness that disheartened the Great Central Powers and gave ultimate victory to the Allies. America plunged into the struggle with all of the enthusiasm to win which is characteristic of this nation in any field of endeavor. Naturally, then, this impetus carried the nation into the further matter of investigation and use of great natural resources, until at the present time research is as much a matter of concern as either production or selling in any successful concern. In fact, one of the great industrial engineers of the United States told the writer recently while they were on the same lecture platform addressing a middle-west college, "Any institution that neglects research has less than ten years to live regardless of its present success." Illustrating this fact, he continued "We have at the present time two outstanding illustrations attending the neglect of a proper research department in a large business. The first that occurs to me is where a concern manufacturing musical reproduction instruments is being forced to pay royalties aggregating millions of dollars annually to a corporation which discov-

ered as a *by-product of research* the secret of properly reproducing sound. The other instance is that of a public service corporation, which having neglected its research department is now compelled to pay into the treasury of a manufacturing company which discovered the secret (which should have been apparent had their own research department been properly functioning) millions of dollars every year as a penalty of ignoring the value of properly organized research."

The History of Research

The history of research can well be shown as a curve which we will call "human control over natural forces" as illustrated in the accompanying graph



which is an adaptation of Professor Courtis' well-known diagram. The horizontals are made to show the values of human knowledge, beginning at the bottom with that of the least scientific value—astrology, with the science of government at the top, as being the most desirable. This chronology covers nearly six thousand years which have been roughly divided into historical periods, such as the Egyptian, Jewish, Grecian, Roman, European and American. It will be noticed that research has accomplished more in the past century than had hitherto been known in the preceding fifty-eight hundred years. At first thought this appears to be an extrava-

gant statement, but do we realize that for over a thousand years, for example, the simple phenomenon of frictional electricity was only associated with the substance of amber? Hence the genesis of "electricity." Further, that until our own Franklin's day there was no suspicion that frictional electricity and lightning were in the least related although there is a record of more than five thousand years of study. If we examine this curve closely it will be an easy matter to see why more is now learned in a short ten years than in the preceding century and reasoning by analogy that more will be known in the next twelve months than was even dreamed of in the past decade. There is only one caution and that is, with modern widespread means of dissemination of thought, such as the press and the radio, there occurs a tendency on the part of the public to be "over-sold" as readers and listeners are apt to be over-credulous. This has a very damaging effect on pure research in that there often arises a popular fallacy that so-called "by-products" simply "happen," that useful and important investigations and applications of knowledge may be likened to Topsy, in that they just "grew." All students of natural phenomena are perfectly aware of the fact that research is not a matter of accretion. The lifetime studies of a Burbank, a Ford, or a Pupin represent rare devotion to investigation.

Research in Business

When we consider the loosely run condition of most businesses whether public or private, it is not to be wondered that only a few out of a hundred succeed. The marvel is that any at all are successful. It may frequently happen that it is one member of a firm, or, perchance, a solitary official or employee who is the student, and he may constitute the entire personnel of the research department. As one of the largest companies in the world states in an account of the necessity of research: "This is vital because every move the company makes in carrying out its manufacturing program is done on such a gigantic scale that all guesswork must be

rigidly excluded from the very start, and the facts predetermined in the laboratories on a purely scientific basis." If we look closely into the work of a successful concern there will be found an energetic, resourceful and well organized research department. For example, the telephone companies of the United States decided a few years ago that they should receive higher compensation for their services. They at once put their magnificent research departments to work and laid out a program with this end in view. All over the country from Massachusetts to California the cities of the United States protested on increase of rates amounting to often as high as 100 per cent. over the present schedule. The gigantic telephone combination secured their increases which in the instance of one American city amounts to several million dollars a year: Why? Because of the justice of their demands? Not at all, simply because the telephone company through its research department prepared briefs which the various state commissions could not properly ignore. The citizen was in the same position as if he were attacked by a trained and armed force. Had the various municipalities been in possession of properly organized data the saving between what they are now being compelled to pay and what they would have been able to have demonstrated as just to the state authorities, would have maintained a proper research department.

The Place of the Special Library in Research

One of the best indications of the success of an organization is the character and size of its technical library. It is not enough that the head of a research department is equipped by training and personality to keep his company ahead of the competitive procession, but it is equally as essential that the company should supply this department with a well selected technical reference library so that all who are so inclined may use it. It is necessary to remember that originality of thought or production will not be prejudicially influenced by the study of what other men have done or are doing.

(Turn to page 251)

California's Program for Co-ordination of Research

By Washington L. Connolly, Associate Director, Research Department,
California Development Association

A growing appreciation of the value of statistical research has been evidenced in this country during the past few years and has been an important factor in the new era of economic development resulting from essential readjustments following the world-wide conflict. Individual firms, corporations, trade associations, state and Federal governments are realizing more and more the fundamental importance of an accurate and ready analysis of pertinent economic data and the value of statistical research to the proper planning of current and long time business activities.

Looking at this movement from the broad general viewpoint, it is apparent that it has been expressed in two distinct phases. There was at first what might be called "an adoption of the principle" period, during which business was learning that accurate fact data was of value to its operations, and was becoming acquainted with the many sources developing useful information. Following this, and resulting from the rapidly spreading application of these principles, there has evolved the present stage of the movement which can be termed "an analysis and evaluation of the adequacy of the machinery operating in the statistical and research field." This has very properly come with the fuller knowledge of the subject itself, and of the inadequacies existing in many phases of the subject.

This latter phase has been reflected in many ways during the last two years. These instances of reflection have been somewhat similar as to purpose and method, differing principally as determined by the combination of conditions involved in each individual situation. For example, business firms and trade associations have been investigating the adequacy of their fact data and have been engaged in developing its usefulness. State and Federal departments, meeting

the demands of the movement, have undertaken important reorganizations among their fact developing facilities and are engaged in further activities along these lines. The recent national distribution congress held in Washington represents a further instance of a much needed move in a field in which complete and co-ordinated data is almost entirely lacking.

These efforts at improving and extending the fact finding machinery have developed several principles with respect to most desirable methods of future procedure. Outstanding among these is that local or regional readjustments are essential to a national improvement based upon a general co-ordination and standardization of the facilities in this field. It is in this connection that certain recent activities along this line in California take on both a local and national importance.

California Development Association

Over a year ago, the California Development Association turned its attention to the development of the statistical and research machinery of California. The Research Department of that association had for two years been laying the groundwork for such a program through its regular operations involving a contact with the various statistical and research agencies of the state and a resulting knowledge of the activities of each. A general analysis disclosed a local manifestation of a more or less national condition, namely, that there had been developing many bureaus or agencies for the collection and reporting of descriptive or quantitative statistical data, that most of these are departments of the Federal or state government, with many additional private or semi-private agencies representing trade and industrial organizations, civic-commercial bodies, etc.,

that some are engaged in measuring the natural resources and their utilization while others are measuring production facilities and trends of development in the basic and related industries, with still others engaged in compiling, analyzing and interpreting the basic data developed, and finally that these agencies of source data and interpretation have all grown up individually, each more or less independent of the other without any particular system of contact or co-ordination between them.

Recognizing this situation, the Board of Directors of the California Development Association appointed an Executive Research Committee as a medium to take the leadership in bringing about all possible practical co-ordination and unity of effort in economic research or fact finding in the state. This committee was composed of Henry M. Robinson, president of the First National Bank of Los Angeles, a member of the Dawes Commission and a director of the California Development Association as chairman, A. Emory Wishon, general manager of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, H. A. Sproul, assistant federal reserve agent, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, George Eberle of the Eberle and Riggleman Economic Service, Los Angeles, Dr. Alonzo E. Taylor, director, Food Research Institute, Stanford University, and David Weeks, Division of Agricultural Economics, College of Agriculture, University of California.

As the first step in this program, this committee was authorized by the Board of Directors to call a conference of the agencies in California engaged in economic research and the production of original information, with a view to considering ways and means for the co-ordination and extension of the presently available sources of information and also for the development of new sources. Letters addressed by Chairman Robinson to some one hundred and twenty-five individual departments and agencies invoked an unanimous approval of the desirability of such a meeting and the objectives involved. The scope of this first conference was suggested to include a consideration of—

1. The facilities, activities, methods and objectives of the several agencies represented.

2. Their respective plans for amplification of their present work.

3. A method of readjustment and modification, in order to eliminate duplication and waste and to bring about more effective operation, to the end that work may be strengthened at its most promising points.

It was further suggested that the work of this conference would be expedited by the submission on the part of each agency of a general report outlining briefly their individual situation with respect to item number one referred to above. A one-day conference was held in Los Angeles on February 23 and was presided over by Henry M. Robinson. Following a general consideration of the presently existing conditions in the field of research, as developed by various speakers, the conference considered ways and means of accomplishing the desired objective. From this meeting came recommendations to establish a permanent organization to be composed of the economic and allied research agencies in California, and a committee was appointed to draft the constitution of such a proposed organization and submit their report to a second meeting of the personnel of this first conference.

A second conference of the same agencies was called for April 3 at the University of California in Berkeley, by Chairman Robinson. The conference was primarily for the purpose of considering the report of the special committee appointed at the first conference, and to establish some permanent form of organization.

The meeting resulted in the creation of The California Economic Research Council, the purpose of which is to foster and promote the correlation of the activities of all economic research and statistical agencies, the standardization and co-ordination of existing economic data, and the development of new sources of statistical and research information in the state of California. Membership in the Council consists of representatives of recognized economic statistical and research agencies in California. The fol-

lowing officers were elected: chairman—W. E. Hotchkiss, Dean, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University; vice-chairman—J. R. Douglas, assistant vice-president and manager, Department of Research and Service, Security Trust and Savings Bank, Los Angeles; secretary—H. F. Ormsby, associate director, Research Department, California Development Association.

Policy and administration is centralized in an Executive Committee of twelve members in addition to the three officers mentioned above, with the secretary the administrative officer of the Council.

Activity on specific and group problems is to be accomplished through the medium of five group committees, who are to study the statistical and research problems and needs of the particular interests which each represents and take such action as is found necessary to carry out the objectives of the Council. The five group committees created are Committee on Natural Resources, Committee on Agricultural Economics, Committee on Irrigation Economics, Committee on Industrial Economics, and

Committee on Business Research. Other committees will be formed as need arises.

It is advisable to analyze briefly just what is provided for by this organization. In the first place, and of utmost importance, this organization does not represent a new agency for carrying on actual research projects or statistical work. It does contemplate the co-ordination of the activities of the various individual agencies composing its membership. A clear understanding of the difference between those two conditions is essential to an appreciation of what is contemplated, as the structure of the Council was especially designed to permit efficiency of operation toward its objectives without the sacrifice of any independence on the part of its constituent bodies.

There has thus been created in California a medium for improving and developing the machinery of research, with an organic structure designed to meet the problems involved, which medium is based upon the approval and sanction of the various individual agencies engaged in the field involved, and who make up its membership.

Commercial and Economic Research in Southern California

By J. J. McBride, National Advertising Research Department,
Los Angeles Times

THE remarkable growth in population, with its attending increase in commercial activities, that has been experienced by southern California during the past few years, and especially since the close of the World War, has tended to render data obsolete almost from the time that it becomes available. This has been particularly true of information collected at intervals of several years such as the various Federal Censuses. In fact the Bureau of the Census has recognized this condition by declining to make estimates of the present population of the city of Los Angeles for the reason that rules and formulae for calculating population growth, found servicable

in the older and more settled parts of the country, cannot be applied to this section on account of its great growth since 1920.

With a condition such as this confronting the business men of southern California it can be easily understood that the need for continuous and accurate research was readily recognized. The demand for timely information has not been confined to those engaged in mercantile pursuits alone, for the growth of new industries, both extractive and manufacturing, has rendered imperative the assembling and keeping up-to-date data bearing upon the various phases of commercial life in this section. Under these

circumstances it is not surprising that research work has met with as favorable reception here as in any other section of the country.

Among the leaders, and undoubtedly the pioneer, in commercial research activities in Los Angeles is the Southern California Telephone Company, which applies the principles and methods of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, to the study of this market, particularly in connection with population growth and analysis of business conditions. Due to rapid growth of Los Angeles this company found it desirable in 1925 to make a house count of this city although its previous study was made in 1922.

Faced with the problem of preparing to supply water, power and light for the increasing population, the Department of Water and Power of the city of Los Angeles several years ago installed a well organized Research Department whose studies largely center around population and industrial growth and distribution.

Traffic regulation is, in Los Angeles, as elsewhere, one of the great questions pressing for solution. Street railway companies are vitally interested in this problem and it has been made the subject of exhaustive study by the Research Department of the Los Angeles Railway Company. A notable contribution to the literature on this subject is a recently published article entitled *The Economic Life of the City in Relation to Street Traffic*, from the pen of the Director of the Research Department of this company.

The effect of taxation upon the commercial life of the state and upon the welfare of the citizens of California has been the subject of intensive analysis by the Research Department of the California Taxpayers' Association. The facts brought out by these studies have been made available through the association's monthly magazine, *The Tax Digest*.

The problems created by the enormous growth of the oil industry in southern California within such a brief period of time has made necessary extensive research work from marketing and storage angles as well as that of production.

This has resulted in the establishment of active research departments by practically all of the oil companies in this part of the state. These departments have contributed their share of research in this field in which California is not surpassed by any other state.

In the matter of market research it will be found that the various newspapers maintain merchandising departments, an important part of whose work is that of making market surveys, which require the collection of original data through actual field work. In addition to surveys relating to the market conditions as affecting a particular product the newspapers are frequently called upon to assemble general data covering the section as a whole.

In addition to the research departments established by the various corporations for work along specified lines there are a number of private individuals and firms who make special investigations and analysis of business conditions, or furnish a regular economic service for their clients.

Located within the limits of Los Angeles are the University of Southern California, the Southern Branch of the University of California, and Occidental College. These institutions are paying particular attention to commercial education and offering numerous courses in statistical methods and business analysis. Many studies of local business problems have been made in connection with the university work, the results of a number of which have been made available through publications issued by the school or department making the investigation.

Supplementing the work of those agencies engaged in the actual work of collecting raw data are the research departments of those organizations which rather confine their activities to analysis and presentation. Excellent work along these lines is being done by a number of private concerns as well as practically all of the banks, two of the latter issuing monthly publications bearing upon business conditions.

As one phase of its work the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce is functioning as one of the leading research agencies in this section. Its well-organized Research Department has accumu-

lated a large fund of information bearing upon commercial conditions. Recognizing the unity of southern California, it has not confined its efforts to Los Angeles alone but has devoted much time and labor to the collection of data relating to all parts of the Southland. Specializing along particular lines the Industrial and Agricultural Departments of the Chamber of Commerce have likewise engaged in original research work in the form of surveys of natural resources and manufacturing opportunities in southern California. The *Market and Field Report of Southern California Crops*, issued monthly by the latter department is a valuable source of current information as to local crop and marketing conditions.

Another of the activities of the Chamber of Commerce that is of particular interest and value to all engaged in research work from the commercial

angle are the semi-monthly research luncheons held under the auspices of the Research and Statistics Committee. These meetings afford the opportunity for all those who are interested in this work to become acquainted with each other and to discuss their problems. The practice of having a half hour's talk by an authority on some phase of research work followed by a round table discussion has tended to make luncheons an open forum for the consideration of business research.

Notwithstanding the amount of research work that has been done in southern California the field for study shows no indication of being exhausted. Even when the present problems have been solved, new ones created by the growth in population and commercial activity already apparent cannot fail to give rise to even greater calls for scientific study and analysis.

Street Railways and Research

By C. A. Copper, Director of Research, Los Angeles Railway

"A new discovery," said Jacques Loeb, "is a new combination of old ideas and these combinations are most likely to occur to the mind of the scientist, not when he is handling material things but when he is brooding over the thoughts of other men and re-thinking them himself."

The application of research to the street-car industry would seem, on first approach, to indicate that mechanical or electrical improvement was the aim. As a matter of fact the material side of the industry has been for some time so near to a probable ideal of economy and dependableness that only minor improvements in design may be expected. The immediate future of this form of transportation lies in the making of social and economic adjustments for which its executives must prepare by studying their urban environment rather than mechanical problems.

To make clear this idea a review of the development of the industry will be helpful. The proto-type of the street-car

was the horse-omnibus placed on the streets of Paris in 1661 by Blaise Pascal. To this crude device have been added some of the greatest inventions of modern times; the result being a remarkable mechanism the use of which has affected favorably the lives of city dwellers throughout the world. Here was provided a form of transportation for urban masses within the limits of price and time available.

The social and economic significance and results of this freedom of movement are to be seen in the concentric design of American cities. This arrangement provides for a healthful dispersion of homes and an efficient centralization of business. Strong babies are the product of the detached residence; a high productivity of the worker is the result of the centralized, machine use of urban business land. Our cities excel by individualizing home life and integrating economic activity, *i.e.*, by division of labor and mass production. The results are mutually beneficial.

This evolution to efficiency by our new towns was predicated upon an adequate circulation of population in the streets. The old quadrille design with relatively narrow street widths was retained. The increased movement caused by the detached residence areas and the increase of gainful contacts necessary was provided for by the improvements, as occasion arose, to the original omnibus.

Mass transportation was adequate until inventive genius revived the obsolescent individual transportation in a form so intriguing that now all the world, like Dr. Johnson, finds its greatest happiness riding in a coach. Unlike the great moralist, however, the world is little able to see the consequences of such pleasures, with or without the handsome lady he specified as a companion.

The result of too many automobiles, as related to the use of city streets, is that of scarcity of street space. This lack is a debit to the highway's chief assets, space and time measured by demand for use. The fluid social status of urban America has already registered

the increasing torpidity of its arteries. In Cleveland the flow of families has set strongly toward the center; in Los Angeles the growth of suburban business is proceeding with a progressive momentum. In most large cities the same consequences are apparent.

That these great changes taking place so rapidly are not being overlooked is apparent. On the theoretical side of urban geography the research work being done by Professor Ely and his staff in the Institute of Land and Public Utility Economics is noteworthy. At Berkeley Professor Sauer likewise is pioneering in this new field of investigation. Among leaders in the electric-railway industry there seems to be little realization of the social implications involved in the service they render. This, indeed, is an opportunity for the "special library." To bring to the busy executive the new ideas in print is one of their great functions. To use further the words of Professor Loeb printed in this magazine for January, 1925: "The library remains the great essential to discovery."

The California State Library Its Special Features

By Milton J. Ferguson, Librarian, California State Library

IT may not be possible in the space of this article to do justice to the California State Library as a special library. However, it is gratifying to note that the president of the Southeastern Library Association, Louis R. Wilson, used California as the standard for measuring the accomplishments and the hopes of the nine states in his group. We who have occasionally been accused of bragging are happy to sit back, silent, while others state the facts we know so well. As library work develops, as it reaches the point where it can really serve, it becomes special.

The California State Library, coming quickly and briefly to my theme, is an aggregation of special libraries whose strength is the greater because they do team work. When it came into being in 1850 it was considered solely as an aid in

the making and interpreting of law; and for a long period of time this phase of its work was held of supreme importance. Gradually books of other types crept in, interests were broadened and other departments of service were added. Today it is not that the law and legislative reference departments have grown of lesser value—perhaps in many ways they are of greater significance than ever before—but that other kinds and interests have come up taking their place on a level with the old.

As the years went by, it became increasingly clear that the state ought to specialize in the field of its own life and history. The subject has been one of fascinating lure, and much has been said thereon. But it was held not sufficient to pick and choose; the collection became inclusive, not exclusive: books,

pamphlets, pictures, newspapers, broadsides, and a great mass of manuscript material bearing upon practically every aspect of California life make this department of the institution one to delight the specialist's heart. A single instance of the help here alone to be found is the newspaper index from the first issue of the precious little *Californian* of 1846 to today's bulky daily still moist from the press. These two millions and more entries have pointed the way to many a weary searcher who had long vainly looked elsewhere.

A word should be said about the emphasis placed upon official state and national documents as a special phase of library service. The State Library years ago recognized the fact that while the so called document may be dry, as a class it contains much of great value when properly handled. Endeavor has been made to gather such books, properly arrange them, and to provide the keys to their contents which will as readily as may open them to the student.

Some years ago his heirs gave the Adolph Sutro books to the state on condition that a branch of the State Library be established in San Francisco to take care of them. This branch at present is located in quarters in the San Francisco Public Library at the Civic Center. While the books themselves do not form a collection especially strong in any one field, they are nevertheless valuable, containing as they do many rarities in many fields of literature. The branch was intended, too, to give the state a point of contact in the Bay region, to which books from the main library might freely be sent. The California Genealogical Society some years ago placed its library in our charge, and it is being administered as an integral part of this branch. In point of volumes used, the genealogical service predominates; and may be viewed as a special library among few of its kind on the Pacific coast.

A department of the State Library which is again of interest to a special class is that which handles the embossed

books for the blind. The general public, except in a sentimental way, is not interested in this phase of the work; but it serves the most eager class of readers in our midst. If the whole population used the library as do the blind we would have actually arrived at that ambitious goal of the library profession—books for everybody and everybody for books. This is largely a direct by mail service and alone among the departments of the library reaches beyond the borders of the state.

It is the desire that the several departments of the California State Library may be the fingers which form the strong hand of helpfulness. They are each in their one particular field reference instruments. The library does have a branch of its work which it gives the usual title of Reference Department. Here are gathered in from the whole state questions of a special character to which locally satisfactory answers have not been found. As time goes on, as more adequate funds are available, when the new building with its excellent arrangement is completed and occupied, it is hoped and believed that there will be built up in the Reference Department itself and in all other departments an example of what the very highest quality of special service may mean.

The State Library does not aspire to the name of a recreational library, though it recognizes naturally the essential nature of this phase of library work. Its mission is to bring to the people information as to the necessity of having a well developed library; that the library in the language of the market is a good investment. It wants to help the professional worker solve his own professional problems, to help him see the wisdom of disregarding old methods where new ones are better—and to do it early. And finally it is ambitious through the local libraries, which will soon, we hope, reach every individual within the state's borders, to bring to everyone a specialized superservice, an answer to those questions which may not easily, readily, or economically be answered at home.

Our Pacific Coast Association

ON February 25, 1922, Dr. Ralph L. Power, a past editor of *SPECIAL LIBRARIES* and for some time a professor at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, called a meeting of special librarians for the purpose of forming a local Special Libraries Association. Dr. Power, always interested in special libraries, had become acquainted with many of them in and about Los Angeles, and in 1921 had published a small book under the title of *Libraries of Los Angeles and Vicinity*. Through this acquaintance and through newspaper publicity, he brought together a group of librarians and research investigators, who were interested in specialized library work.

Mrs. Vivian Smith, now Mrs. J. R. Douglas, was elected the first president and under her faithful guidance the association was firmly started. The succeeding presidents were, in order, Mr. Guy E. Marion, Miss Alice M. Scheck and Mr. Byron E. Edwards.

The association has enjoyed a steady growth and now ranks among its members, librarians from practically every kind of library, schools and colleges, public utilities, banks, museums, industrial concerns, prominent among which have been the oil companies and motion picture concerns, special departments of public libraries, and many specialized libraries.

Not all of these libraries are located in Los Angeles, but many are scattered all over southern California, in Pasadena, Pomona, San Bernardino, San Pedro and even as far south as San Diego.

About forty librarians are now listed as members and associates, and it can truly be said that each and every member has derived much of value from the association.

An outstanding achievement, which took more than three years of faithful and consistent effort, was the preparation and publication of a *Union List of Periodicals in Libraries of Southern California*.

This association early affiliated with the National Special Libraries Associa-

tion and has faithfully supported it at all times. The national slogan, "Putting Knowledge to Work" was adopted and the object is set forth in the following: "The object of this association is to promote the interests of the commercial, industrial, technical, civic, municipal and legislative reference libraries, the special departments of public libraries, universities, welfare associations and business organizations." * * * *

Five years ago pioneers in the special library field in San Francisco had vision enough to realize that if the special libraries and research bureaus scattered around the bay district were to reap a full harvest, there should be an organization holding them firmly together.

The Special Libraries Association of San Francisco, therefore, became at that time an organized agency. Monthly meetings were held at which each member was asked to give a short account of his library, discussing the nature of the material collected, and his special field of research. These meetings were more than mere "get-together" affairs; they were an intensely interesting survey of the research activities of the San Francisco district.

It was just a step from this well organized local association to becoming affiliated with the national Special Libraries Association which was accomplished in December, 1924.

Since then the organization has kept growing, gathering more and more members, becoming fully conscious of its aims, and strengthening itself with new associations and new contacts. Our aim, like that of all such organizations, is to increase the facilities of all research and special library workers by a greater knowledge of the whereabouts of source material. Each member has valuable feelers at work, gathering information, statistics, making new contacts, and finding other research agents; and it is the pooling of all of this information which makes our organization an alive business asset to the community.

Two World Famous Libraries

Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, California

Leslie Edgar Bliss, Curator and Acting Librarian

THE Henry E. Huntington Library is an outstanding example of that spirit which has prompted several of America's wealthy capitalists to confer upon their home city or state the benefits of their world-famous art and book collections. After a period of somewhat more than ten years spent in intensive book-collecting, largely at auction or by en-bloc purchases of libraries formed by other collectors over an extensive period of years, Henry E. Huntington in 1919 decided to give his loved state of California and, through the state, the world at large his already world-famous collection of books and manuscripts. By a deed of trust a self-perpetuating board of five trustees was then created, now composed of George S. Patton, *chairman*, Dr. George Ellery Hale, Henry M. Robinson, Dr. Robert Andrews Millikan, and Archer M. Huntington, which will automatically administer the affairs of the trust on the death of the founder. A building to house the collection was erected on Mr. Huntington's beautiful San Marino estate, and in 1920 the library staff of eleven (now augmented to twenty-two) and the collection were removed from New York City to California.

The library is intended to serve research workers in the fields of incunabula, English and American literature, and American history. It is hoped that exhibitions covering subjects within its fields may be prepared from time to time and that a half-day each week may be set aside for the public view of these exhibits. At the present time the library is not open to visitors but several research workers have already availed themselves of its facilities, in fact they have done so ever since its establishment in the present quarters. Many bibliographical and other reference questions have been answered through correspondence and by means of the photostat. The

research worker without the means or the opportunity to come to California to consult the rare material housed here often finds the photostat his best aid, and consequently much of this sort of work is done.

It is impossible to state with any degree of accuracy the number of books and pamphlets the library contains, though it is believed to be in excess of one hundred and fifty thousand. In incunabula alone the five thousand mark was passed within the present calendar year, thus placing the collection well in the lead, in numbers at least, of all libraries in the Americas. In English literature from the beginning of printing in England through the Victorian period it is doubtful if the San Marino collection is surpassed as a general thing outside of the great libraries in England, being especially strong in that great period of English drama, the Elizabethan. In the rarer books of American history the library compares favorably with the John Carter Brown, the Lenox, the Ayer, and the Clements collections, thus placing it in the first rank for research work in this field. It possesses exceptional material on the American Revolutionary and Civil Wars, on Washington, Lincoln, and the history of its home state of California. Underlying all these collections of printed material, a firm foundation for research work is its manuscript collection, in which is an untold wealth of material, some already published, but the large part as yet untouched by the worker in source materials, consisting of well over a million separate letters and documents. Among these a few of the more outstanding are the *Columbus Book of Privileges*, the *Pizarro-La Gasca* documents, the *Ellesmere Chaucer*, the *Franklin Autobiography*, *Washington's genealogy* in his own hand, and over one hundred and thirty letters of Lincoln.

The Hoover War Library, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

Dr. Ralph Lutz, Director

THE Hoover War Library of Stanford University is a research library. It was founded in 1919 by Herbert Hoover to gather and preserve materials necessary for studies of the causes, the conduct and the results of the World War. Since that time the scope of the library has been enlarged to include the period of reconstruction following the war. From 1919 to 1921 the library was administered by Dr. E. D. Adams and Dr. Ralph Lutz, both members of the history faculty of Stanford University.

In 1921, owing to its enlarged scope, the library was reorganized and placed under the control of a directorate of ten members consisting of the founder, the president of Stanford University and the director of the University Libraries as ex-officio members and representatives of the faculties of the social sciences at Stanford University. These men are responsible for the general policy of the library and for its acquisition program. The administration of the library is in the hands of the director of the University Libraries. Since the reorganization the chairmanship of the directorate has been held by Dr. Adams and Dr. Lutz the present incumbent. In addition to the directorate, the library has enlisted the aid of several well known European scholars, especially in eastern Europe, where the book trade is comparatively undeveloped. These men have undertaken responsibility for building up the various collections in the Hoover War Library in the fields in which they are eminent.

The Hoover War Library has its own staff, its own reading room and its special stack floors. At present it is housed in the Library of Stanford University, but owing to the extraordinary growth of the War Library and its peculiar demands this arrangement is proving unsatisfactory and the War Library will within a few years have a building of its own on the Stanford University

Campus. An estimate of the contents of the library can best be given by a description of the plan of acquisition and the results which have been accomplished in carrying out this plan.

Government Documents

The library collects official government documents from every country in the world, intensively for the war period, selectively but exhaustively within the chosen fields for the reconstruction period. These documents include the parliamentary debates and documents and the reports and publications of governmental ministries or departments. The collection comprises not only documents which were made public but also many official papers which were not intended for circulation outside of government circles. In this group may be mentioned the confidential weekly summary of labor and industrial conditions in the enemy countries compiled by the British Foreign Office and the British Ministry of Labour's weekly *Spy* summary of a similar character, two sets secured for the library by Dr. Adams in 1919. The library has government documents from over fifty countries of the world and the work of collecting in this field is still carried on intensively.

Supplementing the section of official government documents is the library's collection of personal memorabilia or private papers of men and women who were active in world affairs during both the war and reconstruction periods. This collection, usually in manuscript, is for the most part confidential and its use restricted in one way or another. It has for a nucleus sixty-five thousand reports and communications bearing on conditions in Europe during the war and post-war periods. In illustration of this group may be mentioned the papers of Dr. George D. Herron, unofficial confidential adviser to President Wilson especially during the separate peace nego-

tiations with Austria, and copies of official papers of the late Count Stephen Tisza, Prime Minister of Hungary during the war.

Society Publications

Government documents are a *sine qua non* of any great war collection. The Hoover Library, however, has not confined itself to the activities of governments. It has endeavored to gather together materials which will give in some manner a cross section of the lives of the peoples during this troubled period. For this purpose the library has collected the publications of societies, that is, miscellaneous, non-governmental organizations or groups of people banded together to maintain and proclaim some point of view. In certain countries war-time restrictions on the right of free organization, free speech and free press forced many societies to disband or to function clandestinely. The Hoover Library has secured the records of many of the societies under ban during the war as well as the publications of societies which were in good repute with their governments.

War Propaganda

It is an undisputed fact that the amount of propaganda issued by governments during the late war achieved unprecedented proportions. The Hoover Library has an unusually large and valuable collection of these materials especially for Great Britain, France, Germany and the United States. The library's collection includes a large portion of the British Library of the Ministry of Information, which was the British government's collection of war-time propaganda issued by all countries, enemy, allied and neutral. The Hoover Library also possesses an extensive collection of the British government's own propaganda issued by Wellington House, a department of the Foreign Office. In this group should also be mentioned the library's unique and interesting collection known as Delegation Propaganda. This collection consists of approximately two thousand items of propaganda issued by some fifty-four delegations seeking audience at the Paris Peace Conference

in 1919. The catalog of this collection is in press and will be issued shortly as *Bibliographical Series Number One of the Hoover War Library*.

Newspapers and Periodicals

One part of the program of the Hoover Library calls for a newspaper collection consisting of a war-time newspaper file for every country of the world. For the more important countries files of newspapers representing the point of view of every considerable political group are being secured for the period 1914 to date. The library also possesses unusually complete collections of the governmental press reviews of Great Britain, France, Germany, Serbia and the United States.

In the matter of periodicals the library follows much the same plan that it pursues in the acquisition of newspapers. It collects war-time periodicals intensively in the fields of the social sciences for all countries. For the post-war period collecting is selective but exhaustive within the chosen fields. With a few exceptions, European countries only are represented in this period.

Records of International Organizations

The development of international organizations is given extensive representation in the Hoover Library. The library is making every effort to secure complete files of the publications of the League of Nations, the World Court and the International Labour Office. The publications of other international councils, conferences, etc. of the war and post-war periods are for the most part still confidential and a great part of the library's collection of these materials is not yet open for use. It is sufficient to say that no efforts are spared to round out this important section of the library.

Books and Pamphlets

The policy of the Hoover Library in securing miscellaneous books and pamphlets dealing with the war and reconstruction admits of no restrictions as to country or language. The book is evaluated from the standpoint of its usefulness in research only. The extent of the

books and pamphlets collection is shown by the following figures (approximate):

Works in French language	10,000
Works in English language	9,000
Works in German language	7,000
Works in Russian language	12,000
Works in Hungarian language ...	1,500
Works in Italian language	1,500
Works in other languages	4,000

Posters and Maps

The library has made no special effort to collect posters but it has acquired several important and extensive sets. Among these may be mentioned the collection of posters of the Schleswig plebescite, that of the Bela Kun regime in Hungary, a collection of several thousand Bolshevik Russian posters, an extensive French collection and a German collection including many war loan posters.

The same situation prevails with regard to maps. No systematic effort has been made as yet to secure a comprehensive collection of maps commensurate with the other sections of the library. There are, however, numerous important sets of maps in the library including a small collection of general staff maps. It is the intention of the directors to round out the whole map collection under the guidance of a geographer or other map expert.

Russian Collection

The Russian collection in the Hoover War Library is worthy of special mention. Due largely to the efforts of Dr. Frank Golder the Hoover Library has probably the best archive beyond the Russian borders for the study of Bolshevism. The collection, however, covers all phases of Russian history since 1914, Russian foreign policy at the outbreak of the war, the collapse of the Czarist regime, the Kerensky government and the bolshevist revolution. The value of this collection is enhanced by the

presence at Stanford University of valuable Russian materials of the pre-war period including a collection of state papers dating back to 1649.

Special Collection

In addition to the main divisions into which the library has been classified certain special collections have been acquired and maintained as entities. Among these are the David Starr Jordan Collection, rich in unpublished materials, the library of the late Alfred Fried, eminent Austrian jurist and pacifist, the Alonzo Taylor Collection of war-time economic publications including Food Administration and War Trade Board materials, a collection of German materials, about five thousand items in all, containing placards, proclamations and posters of the Great War and the German Revolution, and a German collection of about nine thousand items purchased from Ingenieur Fr. Mönkemöller. This latter collection is especially rich in front line materials—propaganda, orders, proclamations, etc. The most important of these special collections, however, and in fact the nucleus around which the whole library was created is the archive of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, truly an archive, of "that piratical state," as Sir Edward Grey described it, "organized for philanthropy."

The Hoover War Library has been in existence now over seven years. It is the product of the labor and thought of Mr. Hoover and the group of scholars associated with him in building up the library. It is not a completed entity. Many of its sections are fairly well rounded, others show much to be done. While the plan of acquisition remains substantially the same as it was in 1919 the vision has broadened as the work has progressed and no one can confidently foretell what the ultimate limits of the library will be.

Libraries of Government

Forestry, fisheries and mines are each represented in this Federal and state group.

The California State Fisheries Laboratory Library

Ruth Rogers Miller, Librarian

ORIGINALLY designed for the use of its staff members alone, the library of the California State Fisheries Laboratory at Terminal Island, San Pedro, Cal., is beginning to be useful to men engaged in fishery research and other marine biological investigations all along the Pacific coast. These form, of course, a rather small group, but, with the organization of the International Fisheries Commissions for studying halibut and salmon, it is likely to be an expanding one. Workers employed by these commissions, and by the United States Bureau of Fisheries, as well as university students and the state's own staff, are coming to make their headquarters at the laboratory, while they consult the literature of their special problems.

The State Fisheries Laboratory itself was built in 1919, largely through the efforts of Mr. N. B. Scofield, head of the Commercial Fisheries Department of the Fish and Game Commission of California, as part of the conservation program of that department. The scope of its work is defined by law. It is entrusted with the duty of investigating the abundance of commercial fishes with a view to detecting depletion, in order that a scientific basis may be provided for rational protective legislation.

Even before the permanent building was erected an attempt was made to collect a working library. A librarian with university training in zoology has since devoted part or all of her time to enlarging its resources and making them available.

Besides the necessary reference books and general zoological texts, the library contains chiefly sets of scientific serial publications, and reprints of articles from these. Reports of the various State Conservation Commissions are

kept, and the library receives a number of fishery trade periodicals. The equivalent of about two thousand volumes is now on the shelves. Additions are by purchase and by exchange with other scientific institutions.

Obviously a library of this kind will never care to acquire costly complete sets of many scientific periodicals, which, while they are of general scope, yet contain occasional reports of interest to its "public." Very frequently reprints of separate papers can be secured, and where this is impossible loans from the large university libraries can usually be arranged, when particular volumes are needed. However, the literature of fishes and fishery investigations in serials devoted almost exclusively to marine biology, is itself much more extensive than is generally known, several hundred periodical publications allowing of such special classification. The library tries to get all of these that come to its notice, and has, probably, the most up-to-date and complete collection of them that is housed all together, on the west coast.

The real problems of a library of this kind are: 1. To find out what publications exist, that will be useful to its clientele, and to secure them. This is by no means an easy task in the case of highly specialized material. 2. To obtain or make reference tools that will enable the librarian to find literature on topics which are far too limited in scope to appear in the general indexes. It is not enough that he should be able to find something which bears specifically on a contested point. The librarian who attempts to give real service to a scientific investigator must know the resources in his field and the ramifications of his problem so well that he can give the searcher reasonable assurance that he has found *all* the important works bearing specifically on this subject.

Both these problems usually confront the researcher himself. Frequently, with great cost in time, he must hunt out all

his own references, and perhaps even buy them himself; sometimes he has to suffer the humiliation of having overlooked previous works refuting or paralleling his own, until after his researches have appeared in print; and not infrequently he spends months needlessly repeating work that has already been well done. The librarian of the California State Fisheries Laboratory makes it her business to meet these difficulties for the fisheries research men, so that they themselves may be free to do constructive work. The theory is, that a technical assistant with library experience, can, with a little help from the investigator himself, provide bibliographic aids, which an independent researcher cannot obtain for himself.

While there are several tolerable reference guides which furnish means of reaching zoological papers, these are notoriously inadequate for any specialist. This is particularly true in the case of fishery research, for, although anatomical and systematic literature on fishes is relatively easy to obtain, the questions of life history and especially of abundance have until very recent years been neglected, bibliographically speaking. By its own efforts, the California State Fisheries Laboratory tries to supplement the reference resources which are now available in the form of cards and printed catalogs, and to put all these at the disposal of investigators, in such a way that they can locate papers not only by certain authors and on particular species, but also on specific subjects.

United States Forest Service Library

Alma I. Oviatt, Librarian

THE California District of the United States Forest Service maintains a library in its office in the Ferry Building, San Francisco, containing a comprehensive collection of books on forestry, some of which are old and rare. A fairly complete set of government documents, California and other state publications, and general books, cover not only forestry, but also botany, nature study, breeding

of live stock, mining, engineering, and many other subjects along the lines of the work of the various departments of the Forest Service. About one hundred paid magazine subscriptions are handled, including those for the forest branches, and between thirty and forty periodicals are received free. The principal magazine articles on forestry and kindred subjects are cataloged, in addition to the books.

The district library was organized in December, 1908, as a branch of the Forest Service Library in Washington, D.C. Later a branch was also established in the office of the Forest Supervisor of each of the National Forests of the District. In 1925 complete supervision over the district library, as well as the eighteen forest branches, was transferred to the San Francisco office.

The library is now used mainly by the employees of the Forest Service in the California District, many books being loaned to field men on the national forests. The public is permitted to use the books for reference purposes. This use by the public is desired and encouraged, and it is the wish and purpose of the Forest Service to make it the most complete library on forestry subjects in the state.

California State Mining Bureau

E. Cooney, Librarian

IN addition to the numerous standard works, authoritative information on many phases of the mining and mineral industry is constantly being issued in the form of reports and bulletins by various government agencies.

The library of the State Mining Bureau contains some five thousand selected volumes on mines, mining and allied subjects, and it is also a repository for reports and bulletins of the technical departments of Federal and state governments and of educational institutions, both domestic and foreign. Files of all the leading technical journals are also found in the library and county and state maps, topographical sheets, geological folios and current copies of local

newspapers published in the mining centers of the state are available for reference.

It is not the scarcity of publications, but rather the lack of knowledge of just what has been published and where the reports may be consulted or obtained, that embarrasses the ordinary person seeking specific information. To assist in making the public acquainted with the above source of current technical information, the *Monthly Bulletin* contains under this heading a list of all books and official reports and bulletins received during the month, with names of publishers or issuing departments.

United States Bureau of Mines Library

Helen Britton, Bibliographer

THE San Francisco Office of the Petroleum Division of the Bureau of Mines, maintains a library of technical reference books dealing with natural gas, and the production and refining of petroleum, current magazines and a file of bulletins published by the various states

which have to do with the petroleum geology and the industry of these states.

A phase of the research conducted by this office relative to the investigation of the problems of the petroleum industry, is the review of all of the most important periodicals in English and foreign languages which deal with the various phases of this industry. These journals, practically two hundred monthly and weekly magazines, contain the major portion of the material reviewed. About seventy of these are received by the Bureau of Mines Library, and the remainder are reviewed at the University of California Library, the Mechanics' Mercantile Library and at several special libraries.

Abstracts of the articles reviewed are published in a monthly bibliography which is distributed without cost. An annual bibliography of articles on petroleum and allied substances, which is a compilation of articles which have appeared in the monthly bibliographies, is published in permanent form by the Government Printing Office at Washington. These annual publications cover the period from 1915 to the present time.

Libraries of Commerce and Industry

Chambers of Commerce, clubs, associations of insurance and of gas production, each maintain libraries worthy of comment.



The Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce Research Library

Guy E. Marion, Manager, Research
Department

AS you leave the elevator of the new Chamber of Commerce Building on the eighth floor and enter the main lobby of the central wing you step into the library. Books neatly labelled and shelved meet the eye. Spacious reading tables invite the business man awaiting his appointment. Magazines on almost any

conceivable subject from American cities or from foreign lands are to be found in their appointed places in special cases built to hold them. Each compartment holds the current and several back numbers of the different publications. This is the central library of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. However, it alone does not give a proper idea of the book resources of the Chamber, for in each of the fifteen active departments will be found specialized books of particular value to the workers of that department. The card catalog located in the central lobby unites at one point the total resources of the institution and gives the necessary direction where the "wanted" book or document may be found.

History

The story of the Chamber of Commerce Library closely parallels the life of both Chamber and community. If we look over the shelves we find the writings of some of our early officials, we find the gift of many volumes to our late beloved secretary—Frank Wiggins—we see the history of the development of Los Angeles—the city—reflected by government documents, official hearings, reports, etc. of public bodies, Federal, state and civic—we see the development of the free harbor and later of our various industries—we trace the connections of our trade with foreign lands—the library brings the past to us today in the printed word.

Interesting Collections

A few separate groups of books are worth passing mention. The collection of exposition books is quite unusual gathered by Mr. Wiggins through his long career as a leading exhibitor in all the great World's Fairs and International Expositions. We find the Chicago, St. Louis, Jamestown, Portland, San Francisco and San Diego Expositions all represented.

Since the Chamber of Commerce is a co-operative office of the United States Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce we have a most excellent collection of that bureau's literature, with its many series of bulletins and statistical documents all complete in sets. Innumerable pamphlets and odd items from foreign lands abound in this section of the library.

Through the years when the beet sugar industry was upbuilding in southern California the Federal government maintained here an office of sugar investigations. In 1923 this office was abandoned and by courtesy of the departing manager the Chamber acquired a valuable set of agricultural material dealing with sugar growing and experiments consisting chiefly of pamphlets and government bulletins.

From long years of exchanges we have an interesting set of books, annuals, and pamphlets of other chambers and boards of trade in the cities of this and other

countries. These books enable comparative studies of the same practices in different municipalities to be carried on with ease.

At different times collections of law books have come to the Chamber until we have an interesting set of titles in that class.

But the outstanding collection, really of note, came to the library in 1922 as the Taylor Collection, the gift of Fred-eric W. Taylor, the director of the Departments of Agriculture and Horticulture at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. Dr. Taylor had assembled a unique collection of several hundred volumes comprising the documents of nearly all the different state departments devoted to these subjects and covering quite a spread of years. Few libraries have such a representative collection and this private library was given to the Chamber of Commerce. With the assistance of Dr. Taylor, steps are now being taken to bring this collection up to date.

Of directories there are many—headed by an unbroken collection of our own city directories issued annually—and supplemented by those of many other cities. Then there are the publications of many trade associations, often of a directory nature, in other instances, transactions, minutes, and proceedings.

Organization

The library, while accumulating in our several departments as well as in the secretary's office for many years, did not begin to take shape as an organized library until the approach of the completion of our new building, when it became obvious that our books would require attention. When the Research Department was organized in 1923 the books received increased attention from the manager of the new department and gradually ever since modern library science has been applied to develop our library. Today about one-half the collection has been cataloged, using for the most part Library of Congress cards. Several hundred pamphlets have also been cataloged and arranged by the decimal classification. In like manner the "special data" of the Research Depart-

ment in the form of manuscripts, clippings and statistical sheets has been classified and cataloged. Similarly the Farmer's Bulletins in the Agricultural Department have been classified and listed—more cataloging will continue, blue prints and maps will receive similar treatment.

Value of the Library

Economic research cannot be well conducted without a supporting special library. Business men cannot afford to proceed without taking account of the results of economic research. The "rule of thumb" day has passed. Accurate data and intelligent interpretation are prime necessities to every project of importance. So the special library has found a distinct "place in the sun" in the business world.

Never a day passes in the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce without, not one, but many references to the Research Library. A committee may be studying a new form of government suggested as desirable for our community and the library must be searched for collateral and pertinent material. The Publicity Department may be preparing some community promotion display. The Foreign Trade Department may require a study of the movement of some commodity in an out-of-the-way trade channel. The Industrial Department's staff may require facts and statistics about a new product reasonably expected to be more economically produced in this community. A member may call for historical data about his city. In every case the Chamber can better serve because it has at its command a special collection of well selected literature appropriate to its needs.

San Francisco Chamber of Commerce Information and Statistical Bureau

L. C. Willems, Director

THIS Department, while not a special library in the usual sense implying the possession of several hundred vol-

umes, holds membership in the local association because it has, in readily available form, a large amount of commercial and industrial data not to be found elsewhere. Its service, while primarily for the seven thousand members of the Chamber of Commerce, is used extensively by the city in general and a large number of tourists as well. At present it is staffed by four young women, who handle an average of seventy-eight hundred letters, phone calls and personal inquiries a month.

In addition to the usual features of a Chamber of Commerce Information Bureau, such as directories of all large cities, maps, and the best current reference books and trade directories, this department also functions as a clearing house for all manner of statistics about this and other cities, makes market reports and trade surveys, and works up special tabulations of various kinds on request.

When an eastern manufacturer wishes to enter this field, he requires the facts as to the potential sales possibilities. He requests his local representative, his advertising agent, or ourselves, direct, to get him the figures; for instance, on how many steel drums are sold on the Pacific coast annually. Through one of several methods at our disposal, we get the information for him, and incidentally build up our own data file in so doing. Over a period of years the same material may be used in several different connections and a great deal of real business results therefrom.

The merchandising departments of the newspapers and advertising agencies also work in close connection with this department using the facilities which only a disinterested agency has in securing sales figures.

The funds of the department are necessarily limited, so that it is not always possible to have on file all the reference books and directories that our variety of inquires demand, in which case the other special libraries come to our assistance. For example, if a bank librarian wishes a figure on the value of the automobile business in San Francisco last year, or a public utility librarian wants a check on comparative tax rates, they call on us.

The Chamber of Commerce may not be a "special library" in the strictest sense, but it is performing a function which is not duplicating that of any other, and is making business library service available to those who have no other source to use. In this way, it is doing its small part to sell the business library idea to firms who will some day find it necessary to establish a library of their own, and so widen the field for all of us.

Fire Underwriters Association of the Pacific Library

Mrs. J. P. Moore, Librarian

THIS is one of the oldest special libraries in San Francisco. Established in 1878, more as a reading room than a library, it provided current insurance periodicals to the members of the association. These magazines, when bound, constituted the largest part of the files.

Although practically destroyed in the earthquake and fire of 1906, the librarian started a new collection immediately. Valuable contributions were received at the time, not only from the United States, but from England, Canada, and Australia. Many of these sets are almost priceless today. The library has now about five thousand bound volumes (including periodicals) and a large collection of pamphlets, dealing with insurance and allied subjects. The association also subscribes to all of the best insurance periodicals and to the house organs of insurance companies.

Pamphlets written here provide an interesting phase of the work. Our exchanges go to England, Canada, Australia, South Africa, etc. A request for one pamphlet came from Stockholm.

As a part of the library work, the Educational Committee is giving a series of lectures to young insurance men.

The association endeavors to have a complete library on insurance, and has developed a valuable collection, much in demand on the coast.

Pacific Coast Gas Association Library, San Francisco, California

C. Johnstone, Secretary

THE library of the Pacific Coast Gas Association is devoted to the use of association members. It consists of some two thousand volumes, together with a like number of pamphlets, and is conducted in close co-operation with the James Wise Library of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Special effort is made to keep on file gas trade journals, proceedings of other gas associations, and the latest publications of such research bodies as the United States Bureau of Mines, United States Bureau of Standards, California Research Council, and the American Gas Association.

Perhaps the most widely used department of the library is its statistical service. The great growth of the gas industry has attracted the attention of business men, and there is a constant demand upon the library for statistical information from advertising agencies and investment bankers, as well as from members of the association.

A special use has been made of the library during the last six months in securing material in connection with the correspondence course in Gas Engineering being conducted by Columbia University of New York City.

The Commonwealth Club of California

Stuart R. Ward, Assistant Executive Secretary

"LET both sides be heard—then let the people decide." Upon this first rule of democracy the Commonwealth Club of California was founded February 3, 1903. Three of the five men who met on that day have lived to see more than four thousand members join them largely because this policy has been doggedly adhered to. Any forward-looking movement that in any way concerns the political, social, economic or artistic progress of the Commonwealth of California is assured of a

hearing before the membership of the Commonwealth Club—but at that hearing both friends and foes of the proposal must be given equal time and be ably represented.

The heart of its activities is the work of its 28 "Sections," which are in reality little "clubs within the club," and which cover the most diversified fields of public interest. To name a few: Administration of Justice; Agriculture; City Planning; Election Laws; Forestry and Wild Life; Insurance; Art, Letters and Music; Scientific Research; Motion Pictures; Immigration, etc. The chairmen of each of these sections are men who stand high in professional or business ranks, and are able to gather around them from fifty to two hundred other members who are particularly interested in the section's studies.

The sections meet at the club rooms from one to four times each month for the purpose of listening to addresses by some expert, to consider reports by their own sub-committees, or for general round table discussion of problems being studied. Such a series of meetings based upon some state question, as the budget, taxation, fire insurance rates, Indian conditions, etc., may extend over a period of from six months to four years. When the section has arrived at a conclusion, the club's Board of Governors assigns to them a monthly dinner meeting of the general club membership, at which they may present their recommendations.

At these dinner meetings a court stenographer is always in attendance and his transcript, after minor editing, is printed as "Part II" of the club's weekly bulletin, *The Commonwealth*. These reports vary from sixteen to one hundred and twenty-four pages each and are mailed to the club's four thousand members as part of their membership privileges, and sent gratis to all public libraries of the state. A number are also mailed to paid subscribers in all parts of the United States and a few go abroad. They make their appearance from eight to fourteen times each year. Representative titles are: "Child Labor in California," "Direct Legislation," "Immigration and Population," "School Organization,"

"Traffic Hazards Legislation," "California's Highways," "Earthquake Studies," "The Mexican Question," "The Colorado River Problem."

Thus the Club aims to carry out its object of presenting accurate, authoritative and fair statements on public issues. Statements as to its attitude as a club on disputed matters are rarely broadcasted. On those rare occasions when it is felt that public interest should be served by a well founded statement as to what is the membership's position with regard to some problem, a postal card vote of the club is authorized by the Board of Governors. For example, a recent vote on the World Court issue resulted in a recording of fourteen hundred and seventy-three members in favor of United States adherence with two hundred and twenty-three opposed.

To have access to reference material needed in connection with these studies, the club maintains its own library of some nine thousand books, and files of pamphlet material. About one hundred and seventy-five periodicals are also received regularly.

Perhaps no club activity is so widely known as its weekly Friday Noon Luncheons. It is at these luncheons that the members have an opportunity to hear the most prominent men who are visiting San Francisco at the time, as well as able speakers from the Bay Region, prominent among whom are members of the faculties of Stanford and the State University at Berkeley. The list of these speakers includes such names as Calvin Coolidge, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, William Howard Taft, Herbert Hoover, and a goodly representation of other men of national or international reputation. The subjects on which the speakers address these meetings cover the whole world of human interests, a few titles from the past year being: "World Conditions of Labor Unrest," "What is Wrong with Congress?" "What Communism and Bolshevism Have Done to Russia," "Community Management of Community Problems," "The United States and the Geneva Protocol," "Raising the Standards of American College Graduates."

Public Utility Libraries

Gas, electricity, telephone and telegraphy libraries show the need of information for these important fields. A well known railroad system library is also included in this group.

The Pacific Gas and Electric Company Library, San Francisco

Agnes Raber Green, Librarian

THE Pacific Gas and Electric Company Library is a memorial to the late James Hugh Wise, an engineer whose personal collection of books forms the nucleus upon which we have built. At present there are in the library about twenty-one hundred volumes, many government bulletins together with pamphlets, relative not only to the public utility industry, but to allied subjects as well. There are received regularly one hundred and twenty-five magazines and eleven daily newspapers. All of the principal newspapers in the thirty-eight counties which the company serves, are clipped in the division offices and the clippings are forwarded to the general office where the important ones are filed.

An executive order states that a copy of all reports of a general character, made by each department as well as copies of reports valuable for general use, received from other organizations, shall be forwarded to the vice-president and executive engineer under whose jurisdiction the library functions. The result is that the members of the staff are kept informed regarding company development and frequently a duplication of research work is thus avoided.

The staff, besides doing some research work, endeavors, through a systematic routing system to keep employees of the company in touch with current articles relative to their respective interests and work. Books are circulated, but as is usual in the special library, magazines and pamphlets form the bulk of source material.

Serving as we do the entire organization, electric, gas and water in all of its departments of accounting, commercial, engineering, etc., requests of a wide and

varying nature come to us and an effort is made to have the library a reliable source of information and a channel through which reference material may be obtained from outside organizations, and when time limits extensive research work, leads and references are suggested to employees whereby they may the more readily gather their own data.

As a background for learning and understanding individual problems and interests of the employees of the company, we keep a file of so-called personal cards on which under the person's name is listed magazines which he does or does not wish routed to him, as the case may be, and under the caption "Special Interest" is noted all subjects on which he may wish information for use in his especial line of work.

Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company Library

C. H. Judson, Librarian

THE library of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company in San Francisco is, at the present time, in the first stages of organization. Its official existence began on January 1, 1926, and, while much has been accomplished in the way of planning, it is as yet little more than a reading room.

There are in the headquarters building several department libraries of limited size, most of which will be absorbed into the main library, and extensive purchases of new books will be made to round out a collection adequate to the needs of the company. Books will be carefully selected to cover the work of the various departments, including the administrative, accounting, automotive, engineering, operating, personnel and publicity branches. In the reading room, we have now something over eighty periodicals, a large proportion of them being publications devoted exclusively to various

phases of the telephone business. This library service is already in full operation, and magazines are being circulated to all departments where they will be of value.

The library will also operate in conjunction with our educational directors to provide ample material for use in their particular lines of work, filling a want that is felt in all corporations employing untrained young men and women.

The Library of the Southern California Edison Company

Rose Marie Purcell, Librarian

THE Southern California Edison Company is one of the largest producers of electricity in the United States. It serves ten counties, comprising an area of fifty-five thousand square miles with a population of over two million five hundred thousand. Electricity is generated in the mountains, sent out through many miles of transmission lines and then redistributed for the use of five hundred and seventy-seven thousand consumers. About eight hundred of the forty-one hundred permanent employees are in the general offices in Los Angeles. The remainder are located in substations, stores, Test Department, shops, etc., which are scattered over the Edison system.

The library to serve the employees is attractively situated in the general office building in Los Angeles at the end of a long hallway, the walls of which are hung with pictures of the company plants. Bookcases are built in the walls and like the furniture are finished a soft green-gray to harmonize with the rest of the general office furniture.

The library contains a collection of books numbering about twenty-three hundred volumes. This collection is augmented by nearly a thousand government documents, chiefly water supply papers published by the Geological Survey and the publications of the Bureau of Standards. State documents also contribute a very valuable addition to the

library. A deposit of fifty volumes, renewed from time to time, is received from the public library; these consist mainly of good books of non-fiction. The collection covers many subjects such as electricity, civil and mechanical engineering, mathematics, chemistry, personal and business efficiency, public utilities, valuation, etc.

The books are classified according to the Dewey Decimal System of classification and its extension applied to the engineering industries as published by the University of Illinois. A dictionary catalog, with author, subject and title entries arranged in one alphabet is used. The magazine index covers a period of thirteen years but certain magazines have been indexed since 1889. All magazines not covered by the *Industrial Arts* or the *Engineering Index* are indexed by the librarian. We review as far as possible current periodicals and call to the attention of those interested items of news or articles in the electrical industry that may be of value to them. We make a special point of indexing all publicity about the company and articles written by members of the company. This file is very complete and is consulted for many purposes. We also index all articles of importance regarding other electric power companies on the coast.

The company subscribes to sixty-five magazines which are routed through the company's inter-office mailing system. We subscribe chiefly to the technical magazines but we receive a few of a popular nature and some dealing with current events. We also receive for filing many other magazines taken by other departments. Many house organs also find their way to the library. These are circulated in the same manner as the magazines and the most important bound for future references.

Bulletins with brief notices of the resources of the library, lists of new books or items of interest in current periodicals are sent out from time to time. These bring requests from those who are too busy or too remotely situated to come to the library.

The library is primarily a business library and has not been developed as part

of the welfare work. The work, therefore, is almost entirely reference and statistical in character. A great deal of bibliographical work is done for the men specializing in a particular line of research. Many of the men cannot find time to search for all the material on the subject which they are particularly interested in and this service is considered quite worthwhile.

Old magazines, both technical and recreational, are collected and sent to the construction camps in the mountains. The welfare director distributes these to the men employed in building new power plants or in the operation of those already established which are located many miles away from the Edison Library, in fact, many miles away from any library.

Although the library is maintained primarily for the use of the employees of the Southern California Edison Company, we are always glad to be of service to the general public and to put at its disposal the resources that are available.

The Los Angeles Gas and Electric Library

E. P. Ramsey, Advertising Agent

FOR a number of years past Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation has had a library containing a collection of books, pamphlets and magazine files. The majority of these are on technical subjects dealing chiefly with the gas and electric industry.

At first there was no librarian, but later on one was appointed who was to devote most of his time to caring for the library and the needs of its users. However, owing to the rather limited demands for the service, the position of librarian was abolished. The library then reverted to its former state of being somewhat like the "morgue" of a newspaper—a repository for information, not of current, but of possible future value or interest.

However, the corporation does not feel that the limited demands made upon the library are due to a lack of interest or a lack of desire of employees to keep

up-to-date on the industry of which they are a part. The reason is, it is felt, that the corporation's real, *live* library are the books which have been, and are continually being, purchased for individual employees, and which are in constant use by those people.



Southern Pacific Company Library

Julia Evans, Librarian

SINCE 1908 the Southern Pacific General Office Library has functioned as a combined technical and recreational library, thus taking its place as one of the oldest business libraries in San Francisco.

The collection of railroad and transportation material is most comprehensive. Not only are complete sets of statistics for railways in the United States on file, but a great many publications of foreign countries are also received. Allied industries and subjects, such as steel, lumbering, fuel problems, agriculture and distribution are represented in the books and other publications on the shelves. The library regularly receives the annual reports of most of the important railway companies in the United States, and also those of the government railways of Canada, Japan, China, South Africa and other countries. Probably no other material in the library is called for as often as the annual reports of various railroads; these are numbered consecutively as received and filed by number, bringing all reports for the same year together. It has been found that, in preparing statistical data, the person using the reports more often calls for those of several railroads for a certain year than for the reports of one road for a period of years; for this reason a consecutive numbering system was devised, the index number being entered on the shelf list card so that a series may

be quickly traced. Over one thousand annual reports are now on file, and the collection is growing rapidly.

The various departments of the organization are engaged upon research work on many different subjects, and the librarian is called upon to furnish a great deal of diversified information. The general reference works are constantly consulted by the members of the Bureau of News who handle all publicity for the company.

To aid in supplying information, in addition to the catalog of the material in the library itself, the librarian has compiled a union card catalog of all bound material in other departments of the organization. This catalog is kept up to date by circulating every six months questionnaires upon which are entered all additions to the different collections.

Some fifteen hundred volumes of fiction for recreational reading, and about forty-five current magazines are circulated to the five hundred employees enrolled as regular library borrowers. Extra copies of magazines are sent to men in the isolated construction camps of the company, and books are also periodically withdrawn from the fiction collection and sent to the railway clubs at various division points on the system.

San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company Library

Ruth E. Creveling, Librarian

IF the library of the San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company merits no other distinction, it is at any rate the most southwestern public utility library in the United States.

The nucleus of the present collection was segregated early in 1916 and given shelf room in a separate office of the company building, but not until 1924 was it found expedient to put the library on a full-time basis. In March 1924 two large rooms on the eighth floor of the Electric Building were allotted to the library and the present librarian took charge.

The collection at this time numbers

approximately thirteen hundred books and more than a thousand pamphlets and reports. Wide use is made both of the books and technical journals. Each periodical is routed to all interested in its subject; these routing lists vary in number from ten or twelve to forty names, depending on the scope of the magazine. We rely on the material in our current and bound journals for perhaps 70 per cent. of the reference work. The most representative periodicals in each class are bound annually and this collection forms an invaluable unit of the library.

The library is alert for opportunities of rendering special service to young employees who are taking correspondence courses, and we are also especially interested in encouraging the women employees of the company to take advantage of the library's resources. This latter has been a slow process but the girls have discovered that between the covers of an apparently "horrid old dry technical magazine" may be found items of real help to them in their work. For such magazines as *Public Service Management*, *N.E.L.A. Bulletin*, *System*, *Electrical World*, etc., there is quite a circulation list among the girls.

Bulletins issued from time to time and posted on the twenty-odd bulletin boards cover various subjects, sometimes a short review of new books, sometimes a bibliography of our articles on a topic of current interest. When a specific problem of general concern presents itself, such as the ever-recurring California Water and Power Act, or the new Income Tax details, bulletins call attention to the library's material on the subject.

Our demands in the way of reference work pretty closely parallel those of any public utility library, covering a diversified range of subjects. Occasionally we are called upon by outside engineers, teachers and others for references, which we are always glad to supply.

In addition to the regular circulating division of the library, comprising standard handbooks and the latest works on the more important phases of electricity, gas, chemistry, public utility administration, municipal ownership, accounting,

(Turn to page 249)

Libraries on Science and Technology

An interesting group is portrayed, including libraries of fine arts, museum libraries, scientific libraries and the library of the Mount Wilson Observatory.

Library of Architecture and Allied Arts, Los Angeles, California

Lillian T. Burkman, Librarian

THE Library of Architecture and Allied Arts was opened to the public January, 1925 as a Fine Arts Reference Library.

When the classification work was started there were eight hundred books which were temporarily arranged to suit the requirements of those interested. A system of classification was gradually built around the way that books were sought, and when the library had through direct purchase and gifts, acquired fifteen hundred books, the new method of cataloging was finally perfected and adopted. The method of arranging the books was not the acceptance of any former system of classification, but, "just grew." For example, a person interested in Spanish modern domestic exteriors, usually asked for a book in that particular way, and it was while answering the requests of some thousand visitors, that this special classification naturally came about. A brief description of the system, in view of the above comments may be of interest to many.

The classification is divided in terms of geography, period, type and character. All architectural books come under the general class "A," technical books "T," specialized books "S." Second symbol shown in the classification, namely geography, is a significant letter indicating the country to which the book is devoted. The third symbol is a number, either 1, 2 or 3, which shows that the book is one of three periods, ancient, mediaeval or modern. The fourth symbol is a letter, significant of the type of building described or shown, for example "P" public buildings; "R" religious. The last symbol is a significant letter descriptive of the architectural

character of the book. For example "F" furniture; "D" decoration; "G" gardens; "E" exteriors; "I" interiors. A book marked AS3DE clearly states that it is an architectural book on Spanish modern domestic exteriors. The arrangement of the architectural books in the stacks is strictly and simply geographic. An effort has been made to keep those countries which are similar in customs and climate, such as the Mediterranean countries adjacent to each other.

When the library first opened its doors, there were registered thirty-five visitors, and at the close of the year, the guest book indicated that in this small institution, there had been served over two thousand architects, artists and students. This encourages the organizers in the belief upon which this library was founded, that new interest in art and architecture in southern California is rapidly increasing.

California Academy of Sciences Library

Dr. Joseph H. Grinnell, Librarian

A WAY from the whirl and noise of down-town San Francisco, in the heart of Golden Gate Park, is located the Museum of the California Academy of Sciences in which the library is housed.

During the fire of 1906 the library, then located in its old home on Market Street, was completely destroyed. Thanks, however, to the efforts of the Academy and to the generosity of many learned societies as well as individuals, a library was again formed and is rapidly increasing.

Among the many scientific institutions with which the library exchanges publications are the National Academy of Sciences; the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia; the United States National Museum; the Smithsonian Institution, Washington; the Carnegie

Museum in Pittsburgh and many other nationally known scientific institutions. The library is in exchange relations also with various institutions abroad from which it receives such publications as the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*; *Transactions of the Linnean Society of London*; *Denkschriften der Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien*; *Comptes—rendue de l'Academie des Sciences*, Paris, and many other important publications.

The library possesses at present about twenty thousand books and about ten thousand pamphlets, chiefly on the branches of science for which the Academy maintains departments, with scientists actually engaged in research work. These departments are as follows: Department of Botany, Department of Entomology, Department of Herpetology, Department of Mammalogy, Department of Ornithology, Department of Palaeontology, and the Department of Taxidermy. All books dealing specifically with any of the above mentioned branches are kept in the relative departments, thus enabling the curators to refer to them instantly while at work in their respective departments.

California Institute of Technology Library, Pasadena, California

Frances H. Spining, Librarian

THE California Institute of Technology Library comprises the General Library and three departmental libraries—for Physics, Chemistry and Geology. The General Library, located in the central unit of the Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics, contains the books, periodicals and society papers on engineering, literature, history, economics, general science and general subjects. This library accommodates one hundred or more students at ten long tables. The general card catalog of books in all of the libraries is located in the General Library as are also the reference books, such as handbooks, encyclopedias, dictionaries, etc.

The Physics Library is situated in the east wing of the Norman Bridge Labor-

atory of Physics and contains all books and periodicals required for the advanced study of physics and mathematics and is used especially by the graduate students and faculty of the department.

The Chemistry Library is on the second floor of the Gates Chemical Laboratory and will be moved to the first floor of the new unit of this building upon its completion probably next fall. This library contains the books on chemistry and chemical engineering and also bound volumes and current periodicals on these subjects.

The Geology Library is being separated and added to and this will be located on the second floor of the west wing of the Norman Bridge Laboratory of Physics. For this collection Mr. Ralph Arnold of South Pasadena has recently given his geology library to the Institute.

Each departmental library has a duplicate card catalog of its respective books. The Dewey decimal classification is used.

A gift of about six hundred volumes has been received recently by the library from the estate of the late Dr. Charles Frederick Holder. This gift comprises books on the natural sciences, many written by Dr. Holder himself, and several fine sets of standard literature.

The library is used by a student body of five hundred students and a faculty of over one hundred. The public is welcome to use the library for reference purposes but books and periodicals are loaned only to the students and faculty of the Institute with a few exceptions and occasional loans to other libraries through the inter-library loan system.

Los Angeles Museum Library

Lenore Greene, Librarian

THE library of the Los Angeles Museum is not yet two years old, as a separate entity, being operated until July, 1924, as a branch of the Los Angeles County Free Library.

We still have, as an indefinite loan, nearly four thousand books belonging to the County Library, among which are some interesting Californiana, early voyages and finely illustrated art books, as well as scientific works.

Another valuable and interesting feature of the library is the collection of the Historical Society of Southern California, comprising about two thousand bound volumes and several hundred bundles of periodicals, pamphlets, bulletins and reports. There are also many bound volumes of local newspapers, a few as far back as the "fifties" and "sixties" and a fairly complete set from the "seventies" onward.

The pamphlet collection of special interest is that of Homer Hamlin, former city engineer of Los Angeles. This fills over one hundred cases and contains much interesting material on local geology and paleontology, as well as engineering data of all kinds.

The total number of bound volumes now in the library approximates ten thousand, many very interesting and fundamental items having been added during the last twelve months, of which the following brief list gives some idea: Scientific results of the voyage of the "Challenger"; *Biologia Centrali Americana*; Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London; Bloch's *Ichthyologie*; Reeve & Sowerby, *Conchologia Iconica*; Kiener's *Coquilles vivantes*; Reprints of *Early Western Travels*, ed. by Reuben Gold Thwaites; Racinet's *Costumes Historiques*.

Other sets of valuable publications along various lines of research, as well as individual modern works such as: Britton & Rose, *Castaceae*; Phillip's *Natural History of the Ducks*; Lockwood's *Colonial Furniture*; Weyhe's *Ornament*, and numerous portfolios illustrative of ornament and design and the art of various peoples and countries.

Perhaps one of the most interesting of our recent acquisitions is that of the entire library of the late Alanson Skinner, who was a member of the staff of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation.

Mr. Skinner's collection consists entirely of works relating to the ethnology, anthropology and history of the Indian races of North and South America, and comprises some six hundred bound volumes as well as many pamphlets and other unbound material.

Beside the bound volumes, the Museum Library contains several hundred cases of pamphlets and perhaps one thousand bundles of magazines, bulletins and reports, most of which have been classified and shelf-listed, but are as yet not cataloged.

Another feature of the library of great interest is a valuable picture collection, illustrating all subjects, and growing steadily in size and usefulness.

We hope in time to build up in connection with the exhibits of the museum, one of the finest reference libraries to be found on the Pacific coast, to be at the disposal of students and research workers and to all who are interested in its contents.

San Diego Scientific Library

Alice W. Barlow, Librarian

FOUNDED in 1923, the San Diego Scientific Library is fortunate in its location in the California Building, a fire-proof structure whose beautiful Spanish-Renaissance architecture will be remembered by all visitors to the Panama California Exposition at San Diego.

The books and pamphlets included in the library are those of the San Diego Museum Association, the San Diego Society of Natural History, and the Grant Library, as well as a section of the library of the San Diego County Medical Association, and a valuable loan collection, augmented by gifts from individuals and scientific organizations.

Included in the geological and palaeontological material, formerly the library of the late General A. W. Vogdes and now the property of the San Diego Museum, are government and state publications on structural, economic and other phases of geology, and a complete set of the *American Journal of Science*, (formerly *Silliman's Journal*), whose publication began in 1819 and continues to the present time. There are also monographs on special subjects, and on the geology of many localities, among them Japan, Brazil, and India.

Books and pamphlets on ornithology, botany, entomology and zoology, as well as state and government material on agri-

culture, and publications of the United States Department of Forestry, are included in the natural history section. In the field of botany, aside from books and miscellaneous pamphlets, this section contains a set of the *Curtis Botanical Magazine*, a loan through the courtesy of Miss Scripps. This London periodical whose publication has continued for over one hundred and twenty-five years, is an invaluable aid to the botanist, as it contains not only the technical description of each plant, but hand-colored plates of unusual beauty.

Publications of the Peabody Museum on the ancient civilizations of Egypt, Babylonia, and the Mayas of Central America; reports and bulletins of the United States Bureau of American Ethnology; Anthropological publications in English, French and German; and the works of Hubert Howe Bancroft, form a part of the San Diego Museum section.

The University of California, California Academy of Sciences, Field Museum, California Institute of Technology, and other scientific institutions, have sent us many of their publications; and the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, is now sending us its publications, so valuable to the anthropologist.

The largest loan collection is that of Dr. Gates, which covers a wide field, including in the linguistic group such varied material as an Icelandic Primer, an Hawaiian Grammar, and Sources of the Etruscan and Basque languages. Of interest, both to the archaeologist and the artist, are such volumes as *Palenque* with the Waldeck drawings, Stephens' *Travels in Central America*, Aurel Stein's *Ancient Khotan*, Baessler's *Plates of Selected Peruvian Designs*, and reproductions of ancient manuscripts. This collection also includes a number of books on philosophy, some of the publications of the Hakluyt Society, and the *Annales du Musee Guimet*.

In addition to the scientific material, the Grant Library of general literature presented to General Grant by the city of Boston in 1866, now forms a part of the San Diego Scientific Library. In it are included the classics of that period in the field of fiction; important histori-

cal material from Herodotus to Macaulay, including biographies and letters; poetry, essays, and Audubon's *Birds and Quadrupeds*.

Aside from purely scientific publications, a number of periodicals are to be had in the library. *Art and Archaeology*, the *National Geographic*, *El Palacio*, *Bird Lore*, the *Condor*, and others are available.

Our books do not circulate, but form a reference library for the benefit not only of the members of the societies, but for the free use of the public as well.

The Mount Wilson Observatory Library

Elizabeth Connor, Librarian

THE Mount Wilson Observatory Library is now a little over twenty years old, having had its beginning in 1904 when the Observatory itself was founded. By 1910 it had acquired about a thousand volumes, which were accessioned but not cataloged—in fact, the library had taken care of itself pretty much as best it might and only that year was given its first librarian. Since then its growth has been steady and progressive until in 1926 it numbers nine thousand volumes, representing in a very satisfactory way the field it is aiming to cover—astronomy, physics in so far as it is related to astrophysical problems, mathematics, some chemistry, meteorology and geology.

The policy has been to build up gradually a well-rounded collection by purchasing the more important treatises as they appear year by year, and, as opportunity arises, by acquiring older works which are valuable from the point of view of the history of science. When it can be done at a reasonable price early editions of some of the older works on astronomy and physics are bought, in some cases for their intrinsic interest, in others because no later editions have been published.

About one hundred scientific periodicals and publications of learned societies are received and bound as soon as the volumes are complete. When it has been possible to obtain them, and their

use in the library has warranted their purchase, files of the earlier volumes have been acquired. The library now contains many important and extensive sets of such publications for example, that of the *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society of London, which is complete from the beginning in 1665. The publications of other observatories form a quite extensive and very important part of the library, as do the pamphlets, which number about five thousand. A collection of nearly two thousand lantern slides is used by members of the staff for the many lectures they are called upon to give.

This staff forms the "public" of the Observatory Library, for the Mount Wilson Observatory is one of the branches of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, whose administrative offices are located in Washington, D.C., but whose research work along different scientific lines is carried on by its various departments, located in many different parts of the United States. The Mount Wilson Observatory has on Mount Wilson its telescopes of various kinds and sizes, including the great Hooker 100-inch telescope, for making observations, mainly of the sun, stars, and nebulae.

The research group or staff, numbering about thirty-five, including the astronomers themselves, the computers, those who assist in measuring the plates and making the mathematical computations, make a very different group of course, from the regular library "public," as it has through training and experience learned to use the library as one of its tools and is pretty well versed in the literature of its subject. Although the Observatory Library is frequently used for reference by research workers from various institutions of the vicinity, it can be conducted like a private library, where a student is little hampered by rules and regulations, and yet it must be sufficiently well regulated to make the books accessible to any member of the staff who may need them. There is no limit to the number of books which may be taken out by a staff member or the length of time they may be retained, provided they are in use and not more needed by another. As the library is open to

the staff at all hours the charging system is the very simplest, consisting of slips to be filled out by either librarian or staff member, then filed alphabetically and destroyed when the book is returned.

The classification used in the International Scientific Classification of the Royal Society of London, one rarely seen in this country, but on the whole very convenient, especially on account of the classified catalog of each subject issued yearly until interrupted by the war. In this system each science is represented by a letter—A for mathematics, B for mechanics, C for physics, etc., and the subdivisions are covered by a group of four figures from 0000 to 9999. There are no decimals, consequently the assignment of a number to a subdivision is arbitrary, and flexibility is lacking to provide for future subdivision as a subject grows or is modified in the rapid development of modern science. In the Observatory Library certain changes have been made for the sake of convenience; for example, a general number, 0020 without a prefix, has been assigned to all periodicals and publications of learned societies, which are then arranged alphabetically. This has also been done in the case of biography and several more or less general subjects.

The library is located in the main office building, completed in 1912. Myron Hunt, who planned the Huntington Library and the Pasadena Public Library, was the architect. On entering the building one faces, across the main corridor, the large central room of the library, lined from floor to ceiling with books and lighted from the two sides by French windows. This reading room, which is provided with a lantern and screen, is sometimes used for lectures and meetings. It will seat sixty or seventy persons very comfortably. A small circular stairway in one corner leads down to a basement stack-room where most of the bound periodicals are housed. Out of the main room the librarian's office, its walls also lined with books, opens on the east, while at the west is a larger room, containing the collection of observatory publications and affording a quieter place

(Turn to page 249)

California and Hawaiian Sugar Refining Corporation

O. W. Wyatt, Statistician

Books on all phases of the sugar industry, not only in the United States and the Hawaiian Islands, but also in Cuba, Porto Rico, Java, India, and other sugar refining countries are kept in this department. Government publications, the more important ones being the Census and Tariff Reports, and weekly and monthly magazines giving statistics on the industry are also received. Reports are compiled from this material on production, consumption and sales.

This in no way takes the place of a library to the company. A complete technical collection is maintained in the Refinery at Crockett, California. Only such material as will aid in compiling reports is received in the Statistical Department of the San Francisco office.

Western Precipitation Com- pany, Los Angeles, California

Anna F. Frey, Librarian

The library of the Western Precipitation Company consists of about eight hundred bound volumes, covering chiefly industrial chemistry and chemistry proper, electrical engineering and metallurgy. The Dewey system is used for general data and records as well as for the library. The chief activity of the company is the exploitation of the Cottrell Process of Electrical Precipitation, for the removal of dust and smoke from industrial plants, and the recovery of values ordinarily escaping with the smoke. The research work, therefore, extends into various fields, such as physics, electrical engineering, metallurgy and general industrial chemistry.

Oil Libraries

The petroleum industry is a growing business on the Pacific coast. Seven libraries are the subject of sketches, three of the number operated by one prominent corporation.

Associated Oil Company Library

J. Ethel Pushie, Librarian

THE company maintains a central library in San Francisco under the charge of the Industrial Relations Department. Smaller branches are also maintained in several field and sales divisions. From a small beginning in 1920, the number of books has steadily increased until, at the present time, we have approximately one thousand volumes in all divisions. In San Francisco, we have a part time librarian, but in the outer districts the library is in charge of the employment foremen or chief clerks.

Books on the oil industry, of course, comprise the largest number, but we also have books on industrial management, safety, business economics, office practice, letter writing, chemistry, salesman-

ship, advertising, marketing and general business.

The company subscribes to several hundred magazines which are under the direction of those in charge of the libraries. The San Francisco and Los Angeles offices route these magazines principally to executives and bureau heads, but in the field divisions the magazines are placed on the general reading tables for the use of all employees.

We have found the library especially valuable in the preparation of training courses, and several copies of reference books are kept on file for the use of new employees and salesmen. For example, we have over forty copies of a technical book on the oil industry, which is used to supplement the *Sales Manual*. Books are constantly being sent out to employees as far away as Honolulu, and through the co-operation of an outside agency, a traveling library has been sent to employees in Alaska.

The General Petroleum Corporation Library

Nelle McKensie, Librarian

THE Engineering Library of this company had its start in life in June, 1920 and was then a small collection of heterogeneous material. Our collection now consists of seven hundred books, eight hundred pamphlets, six thousand five hundred patents, three hundred bound volumes of magazines and also a file of ephemeral trade literature. This treasure chest of information may be used by any employee of the company.

Experience having shown us that "existing knowledge is the basis of future discovery" we try to have the finest books of proven value, as well as authoritative recent treatises. These books are cataloged by author and title entries, and the work of classifying them by subject is under way.

Our engineers and chemists are dependent on current technical literature as a necessary ally in their research work. As a means of keeping in touch with this literature, the library currently receives sixty technical periodicals and society publications. All informative articles are card-indexed according to "classification of subjects" which is a combination of the Bureau of Mines classification of petroleum technology and the University of Illinois Engineering classification. By means of this general index to periodical literature, all data contained in magazines, patents, documents, pamphlets, bulletins and all such non-trade literature sources, is assembled under one number. At the end of each month, the librarian compiles a petroleum technology review which contains the names and authors of the new books received by the library, and a comprehensive subject list of magazine articles. This review is sent to seventy-five interested readers, who check the titles they desire to read and return the review to the librarian who sends them the requested material.

An important branch of the library is that covering patents applicable to oil work. The United States Patent Office system of classification is used in filing.

This file is of inestimable value, for it may save an employee of an inventive turn of mind a great deal of work, for it may show him that his idea is already patented and possibly even in use, or it may give him a better understanding how to develop what he has in mind. Cards for this file are made in duplicate, the duplicates being kept in a fireproof vault. Thus if our collection of patent specifications were to be destroyed we could reassemble it from the vault list.

The photostat service is also a valuable feature of the library, as it enables our borrowers to have copies of extracts from books or magazines to keep permanently.

As the literature of petroleum technology is voluminous, it is impossible for a company library of this sort to have everything of interest to oil workers. To amplify the facilities, arrangements have been made allowing our library to borrow from other technical libraries of southern California. The Science and Industry Department of the Los Angeles Public Library has been of great help in various ways. Although our library is now in an embryonic state of metamorphosis, it is fast developing into an organized information department.

Shell Company of California, Information Service

J. A. Dean, Manager of Department

SHELL Company of California, producers of crude petroleum and refiners and marketers of petroleum products, in 1919, established a department combining a technical-business reference library, and a technical-information service, for the benefit of Shell Company executives and employees in all branches of the organization. The subsequent developments of this department have been along five rather well defined lines of activity as follows:

1. The technical library contains approximately four thousand volumes on geology, general mining engineering, petroleum engineering, refining and marketing, and approximately twenty thousand pamphlets on various phases of the petroleum industry and kindred subjects.

The library receives about one hundred and fifty weekly and monthly technical and business periodicals, published in the United States and Europe, approximately forty-five newspapers, all United States government publications and those of many technical societies and industrial associations. The library solicits and collects miscellaneous pamphlets and reports which in any way relate to the industry. The department is almost exclusively for reference use and does not provide literature for general and popular reading. An extensive card index system is maintained, which not only contains references to materials in periodicals, pamphlets and books in the library, but also to items obtainable in publications in various libraries of San Francisco and vicinity.

2. A press clipping bureau is maintained, and these clippings in addition to being circulated among executives form a basis for abstracts and rewritten items appearing in three mimeographed publications issued regularly by the department.

3. *Shell Daily Oil Digest*, issued every morning, except Sunday, contains very brief abstracts and comments on activities immediately affecting the petroleum industry; *Shell News-Letter*, issued every Friday, contains brief reviews of current petroleum topics, and *Shell Field-Summary*, contains abstracted news of the various oil fields in California and the Rocky Mountain region. In addition to items of news and general information, each issue of *Shell News-Letter* lists from one to three pages of current periodical bibliography on petroleum subjects; copies of any of these articles are obtainable upon request by any Shell Company employee.

4. The department regularly collects, analyzes and distributes general, technical and statistical information relating to the petroleum industry and its personnel. Among the activities of this nature, is the collection and maintenance of statistical data showing living costs in the various districts of California where the company carry on major operations. This information covers prices at the 15th of each month on selected food stuffs, clothing and bedding, quarterly rental costs

of houses and apartments, and is used by the company as a basis for establishing wage scales for its employees in plants and fields.

5. Shell Company Information Service represents the organization in its membership relations with various industrial and technical associations and societies in the United States and Great Britain, and maintains files of the various publications of these organizations.

As an established policy, Shell Company Information Service is aggressive in its work, not waiting for its patronage, but as far as possible anticipating the wants and needs of individuals by preparing and sending out a steady flow of information to a clientele of over five thousand employees of the organization stationed at various places on the Pacific coast.

San Francisco Library, Standard Oil Company of California

Margaret Hatch, Librarian

A large oil company, including in its activities all of the many features connected with the industry of producing, refining and marketing petroleum, is in reality a combination of a number of distinctly separate enterprises. Consequently, the calls for business reference service upon the library of the company are as varied as the work of its widely different branches.

Primarily, the oil company is interested in the geological exploration of new lands to aid in the constant search for oil at home and abroad. To carry on this work, the petroleum geologist needs data relating to prospective oil fields both in the United States and in foreign countries.

In the producing of crude petroleum, the oil company takes a place in the front ranks of the mining industry. The petroleum production engineer needs technical information on the drilling of oil wells, oil well pumps and pumping, methods of increasing the production of oil wells, the producing and handling of gas, etc.

To provide storage facilities for crude oil from the well, and for refined oil at refineries and distributing stations, the oil company constructs huge oil field reservoirs and oil storage tanks. The company engineers use technical information dealing with all problems connected with the economical and safe storage of oil.

For the transportation of crude oil from the fields, and of its products to home and foreign markets, the oil company is an owner of miles of oil pipe lines, railroad tank cars, and a complete steamship line of oil tankers and barges. Information is needed concerning the construction and maintenance of oil and gas lines, oil pipe line pumps and pumping, the operation of tank cars, the status of rail transportation, tanker fleets, marine Diesel engines and all other related matter.

With its output of petroleum products from its refineries, the oil company is a manufacturing business of large proportion. Material is desired on petroleum refining methods, specifications for petroleum products, and refinery equipment.

To market its products, the oil company maintains a selling organization covering practically every city and town within its marketing territory. The sales force needs information on all petroleum products and their uses, the design and operation of different types of sales stations, oil tank truck fleets, marketing methods, sales management, salesmanship, etc.

At its home office, the general business and financial activities co-ordinating all of these branches of the industry are conducted. Statistical information relating to the petroleum industry, and material on such subjects as accounting, corporation finance, tax regulations, credit, advertising, business law, and business correspondence is needed. The expansion of business interests to foreign countries necessitates a knowledge of business conditions and laws in those countries.

To meet these demands upon its resources, the oil company library must specialize in building up a collection covering all phases of the industry. The

Standard Oil Company of California Library includes all of the best books relating to the petroleum industry, technical and business books, all pertinent United States and state government publications, a collection of miscellaneous pamphlets and reports on subjects of interest, and the most important oil industry, technical, financial and business periodicals.

As a valuable aid in locating special material, an extensive card index covering all subjects pertaining to the oil business is maintained. Other library services include the issuing of a monthly index of current periodical articles and new publications of special value to company departments, routing periodicals to executives and departments, and notifying individuals of any new material along their lines of work.

Our own working collection of special material is supplemented through the use of outside libraries and other sources in the chief service of securing quickly and accurately any required information.

Development Library, Richmond Refinery, Standard Oil Company of California

J. F. Cassidy, Librarian

This organization emphasizes a special phase of the petroleum industry—that of refining, including petroleum chemistry and engineering. Technical research is carried on and new material is constantly being received and routed to those interested.

An important function of the library is that of abstracting the two hundred or more books, periodicals, and reports received monthly and compiling these into bulletins which are routed to officials, department heads, chemists, and engineers.

An interesting feature of this service is the translating of foreign patents and articles, appearing in foreign magazines. Several members of the staff have an extensive command of languages, in addition to their knowledge of technical subjects. Thus, material from all over the world is brought within reach of all. The

library is in constant use, providing information to research works.

Standard Oil Library—El Segundo Refinery

B. E. Edwards, Librarian

It would be improper to say that this library was established upon any certain date. It was built up from a natural growth in several departments of the refinery, particularly the Engineering and Research Laboratory.

Essentially it is a technical library, serving every department, but there is also a reading room for the employees to rest at noon and at other times while off duty.

About sixty technical, engineering, chemical, petroleum and other magazines are subscribed to and these are circulated, important material indexed and many are bound. The collection of books is fairly complete on petroleum and related subjects, but other subjects are limited to the immediate needs of the several departments.

The Dewey classification is used, but petroleum subjects are classified according to the expanded classification of petroleum subjects originated by the Bureau of Mines. Most material at all related to petroleum is brought under this collection rather than placed in the general collection.

Material is freely borrowed from the Los Angeles Public Library and co-operation with other special libraries in southern California is effected. Exchanges are also made with the other company libraries, at the home office in San Francisco and at Richmond Refinery.

Library of the Union Oil Company of California

Elizabeth H. Burroughs, Librarian

THE library of the Union Oil Company of California is located in the company's research laboratory at Wilmington, California. This library was organized three and a half years ago and at present occupies a large well lighted

room admirably suited to its needs. It is strictly technical in character, its chief purpose being to serve the Research and Development Department, though its facilities are available to all departments of the company. Reference work is done for any department requesting it and books, periodicals, pamphlets and trade catalogs circulate throughout the company. The work up to the present time has required the full time of a librarian and one assistant.

The library will eventually gather worthwhile and important material on all phases of the oil industry, though stress has so far been laid on chemical and engineering subjects and on manufacturing processes and practices. In addition to shelved material, extensive files of technical data and reports on the research work of the company which are desired for permanent record are kept in the library. A combination of the Dewey classification and the Dewey expansion for petroleum and allied substances originated some years ago in the United States Bureau of Mines and revised to suit the material here at hand is used for all material including the data files. There is a subject card index for all material, combined with subject cards containing pertinent bibliographic references, the kind of material being distinguished by the color of the card.

An effort is made to keep employees informed of developments along the lines of their special interests and problems by marking pertinent articles in the current literature for their attention and by issuing monthly a mimeographed bulletin of abstracts grouped under subject headings covering outstanding articles on all phases of the oil industry. A library accessions list issued at the same time keeps employees informed of the material being collected by the library and available to them at all times. Books and periodicals referred to in these bulletins are lent on request and many are sent through the mails to offices and refineries in other parts of the state. Bibliographies are prepared and searches of the literature made on special subjects when requested.

Medical Libraries

The field of medicine is represented by five medical libraries of prominence, each library serving its own clientele but working in harmony with the other medical libraries.

Alameda County Medical Library, Oakland, Cal.

Anna P. Kennedy, Librarian

THE Alameda County Medical Library is fortunate in being connected with three organizations, thus having three sources of revenue. The Alameda County Medical Association, which originally started the book collection, subscribes to and binds the journals; the county library provides the books and a few non-technical periodicals; and the Public Health Center provides the location. The library also has a life membership in Lane Medical Library in San Francisco and may borrow from that source.

The growth of the library through gift and purchase, has been gradual, but a valuable collection is being accumulated, which is coming to have an important place in the community. There are, at the present time, about fifty-five hundred books; sixty-four journals are received, most of which are bound, making a valuable source of reference material.

The library is open to the public and is used frequently by students and other lay people. However, the greatest number of borrowers is naturally from among the physicians. Every attempt is made to place the best of up-to-date information at their command and through indexes, to collect material for special problems.

Barlow Medical Library, Los Angeles, California

George Dock, M.D., Chairman,
Library Committee

THE Barlow Medical Library may be looked at in two ways. One, as the embryo or nucleus of a large, fully equipped and well sustained library, equal to all the demands and the highest ideals of the southwest; another, as it

is now, not a large library, for convention gives that name only to those medical libraries that have ten thousand volumes, but a very efficient library with over nine thousand volumes and two hundred and five current journals. It has a dignified home, which it is rapidly outgrowing. It has a small but unusually active, intelligent and enthusiastic staff.

The medical periodicals form the most essential part of a library, for they contain the fundamental contributions to medical literature. The books include the most useful text books, systems, encyclopedias, and works on medical biography and bibliography. Through these it meets the needs of all classes of medical readers, from those who wish to keep up with the rapid advance of medical knowledge in general, to those who wish to make an exhaustive study of any special detail. Of course, it meets the needs of all, whether physicians or laymen, who wish to be informed on any detail of medical science or practice. Members of the Special Libraries Association of Southern California, it is hardly necessary to state, are welcome to bring here all their medical problems.

An example of the functions of the library is evidenced by the fact that more than one hundred articles were published in medical journals in 1925 by members of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, and most of the medical research work was done by the authors and the librarians in the Barlow Medical Library. In the same time requests for research work on about two hundred and fifty other subjects were made, beside the daily requests for information from visitors at the library. Almost every day questions are asked on important current topics such as smallpox and vaccination, infantile paralysis, foot and mouth disease, oriental plague, the treatment of measles, the prevention of scarlet fever and diphtheria, cancer, tuberculosis, etc. Obviously, such work must be done

promptly. Many of the special bibliographies have been kept in the library, where they will be useful to future readers.

"The library and its facilities have been placed at the disposal of the United States Public Health Service in the work of rat extermination, of the Special Narcotic Drug Committee, of the city, and the county health departments in combating the epidemic of poliomyelitis." (*Eighteenth Annual Report, 1926, page 8.*)

The Barlow Library is maintained by an association composed of some two hundred and fifty physicians of Los Angeles and vicinity, but a very important feature of its growth is the co-operation of the several medical societies and of many special sections of the Los Angeles County Medical Association. Many of these have placed collections of special journals in the library, have subscribed for current volumes, and set aside considerable sums for the purchase of special works. Many individual members of the Barlow Medical Library Association contribute books and journals, and take an active interest in the growth of the collections. Special attention has been given to collecting works on medical topics in California and the southwest, and to all material bearing on medical progress and medical men and women in the southwest. Contributions to these topics as well as to other lines appropriate to the library, are suggested to those in a position to further the advancement of medical education.

Lane Medical Library, San Francisco, California

Louise Ophuls, Librarian

THE Lane Medical Library is the library of the Medical Department of Stanford University. The building, erected in 1912 from the money left by Dr. and Mrs. Levi Cooper Lane for that purpose, is across the streets from the medical school and the Lane and Stanford hospitals, and is thus easily accessible to the professors, the hospital staff and the students. It contains approximately sixty-five thousand volumes,

ranking as the largest medical library connected with a university.

Many noted physicians from all over the world have shown great interest in the treasures of our medical history collection. In 1921, Dr. Adolph Barkan, Professor Emeritus of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, wishing to complete the sections on these subjects but finding it difficult to separate them from the history of medicine in general, decided to endow a section on the history of medicine and natural sciences. With the support of Stanford University, he purchased the library of Professor Ernest Seidel, in Meissen, which contains, besides the Latin and Greek authors, a fine collection of Turkish, Persian and Arabian manuscripts, some of which are very rare. Since acquiring the Seidel collection we have purchased, with the assistance of Dr. Karl Sudhoff in Leipzig, many medical history books, so that, including those previously contained in our library, we now have about five thousand books on history of medicine subjects. Early collections of the Greek, Latin and Arabian authors in original binding, with quaint title pages, ornamental borders and title vignettes, attract attention. Among the works of Vesalius, "Father of Anatomy," are the first and second editions of *De Humani Corporis*, and a very rare German translation of the Epitome. Such masters of medicine as Paracelsus, Pare, Morgagni, Haller and many others are to be found here in their various editions and translations; the famous modern physicians are also well represented. Our aim is to have a medical historical collection so complete that research workers in this field can find the original work as well as the commentaries and explanations of these old texts.

About four hundred and fifty periodicals are received currently, forming a valuable part of our collection. Our foreign journals, British, French, German and Italian, as well as many of our domestic periodicals, are complete to date and bound. Reference books, text books and monographs are also purchased.

Physicians not connected with either Stanford or the University of California

who wish to withdraw books may take out a membership for \$5 per year or a life membership for \$100. All others may consult books and journals in our reading room. Frequent requests for material come from the surrounding states, inter-library loans being made with libraries in Oregon, Washington, Nevada and Utah.

San Diego County Medical Library

Mildred Farrow, Librarian

THE San Diego County Medical Library Association was organized in 1915 and for its organization Dr. Robert Pollock deserves special mention, as it was due to his enthusiasm and his tireless efforts that the San Diego Medical Library Association was organized and carried on through the years to what it is today. Ever since its start, Dr. Pollock has been an interested worker and his contributions of books and journals are a perpetual monument to his interest in the library.

At the close of the San Diego Group Clinic, the unabsorbed funds were used by the Clinic staff for the Library Association. This sum amounted to \$3,000. Not much in actual capital but the little group thus gathered together had the courage of their convictions and saw far into the future.

At no time was the San Diego Medical Library Association a part of the San Diego County Medical Society. For many years it was supported solely by the contributions of its members. Later, however, the Medical Society voted that a certain percentage of its annual dues be given to the Medical Library Association and the San Diego County Dental Society has also become a member.

Much credit is due Mrs. Alice M. Merritt for her tireless efforts in the up-building of this library during its first formative years. After five years of faithful service Mrs. Merritt resigned her position as librarian, but those five years have left an enviable and indelible imprint on the records of this association.

After Mrs. Merritt's resignation Mrs. Lucy T. Edwards was elected to the librarianship and after three years of successful work was obliged to resign on account of ill health.

Since April of 1924 Mrs. Mildred S. Farrow has been the librarian. Mrs. Farrow has had many years of experience in Medical Library work having begun her career in the San Francisco County Medical Society Library where she was engaged in this work for several years.

It is gratifying to know that out of small beginnings great things may grow and the outcome of our little library is over four thousand bound volumes and the reading table is supplied with over sixty journals. Beside the general indexes the librarian has an index of the journals as they arrive in order that any new material may be readily available for the reader.

The San Diego County Medical Library Association has always been open to the public—not only to the medical profession but to the layman as well as to the youth of the city who come for assistance in writing their high school and college themes on sanitation, hygiene, health or disease. To those seeking such knowledge there is the open door to the San Diego Medical Library.

San Francisco County Medical Society Library

Dr. Leo Eloesser, Librarian

The San Francisco County Medical Society maintains a library of some ten thousand volumes to provide its members with journals of clinical interest and with books of reference. No attempt is made to keep files of journals of the purely scientific branches of medicine; these are to be found at the Lane Medical Library, which our library seeks to supplement rather than to rival. A special file of journals of the various state medical associations is kept, as well as fairly complete sets of domestic and foreign clinical journals.

Primarily, our purpose is to be a useful working library for the practicing physician, and our shelves and files are open for his use.

Newspaper Libraries

Many newspaper morgues and scraporiums became fully developed reference bureaus. Four newspaper libraries of prominence in Los Angeles and San Francisco attest this statement.

Los Angeles Examiner Library

Mrs. Gertrude Blackledge, Librarian

PROMINENT resident of this city and former explorer and author is dead and leaves an estate valued at \$500,000 to the remaining members of the illustrious family of soldiers of fortune. Many of the deeds and experiences of some of these men are worth relating, but have long been lost in the sands of time. The city editor thinks this is a story the public would like to read. Although the family do not object to talking for publication they do not wish to be approached at this time and later the story will have lost its news value.

Now you may wonder where this information is to be obtained. That is where a newspaper library serves one of its many valuable purposes. The city editor merely requests that the library furnish all the material on hand concerning this family. Sounds like a difficult task, but to the librarian it is simple enough, because in a newspaper library there is system. Upon each member of the family there has been filed in alphabetical order what the *Examiner* Library calls "index cards." Upon these cards a brief outline of what each story contains is given with the date, page and column necessary to refer to the bound volume. Each edition of the paper is bound and kept indefinitely. This system has an advantage over the clipping system since the story has already been read for the reporter and he may know in an instant what is in each article and often the information given on the card alone is sufficient for his purpose. At the time the various episodes occurred photographers made negatives which are on file under the numeric system and may be produced upon a moment's notice. Pictures and cuts readily obtainable from a straight alphabetical file under Personal

and Subject heads. The cross-index system is used when a group picture is filed so that no matter under what name the picture is called for it can be produced quickly. For the filing of large pictures and maps there is a special file so that the photos need not be folded and thereby ruined.

It is interesting to note that the library gains favor for the paper not only by its wealth of ready material for various editors and reporters, but the public is also served directly both by telephone and letter. The number of letters easily averages twenty or more a week, many of them requiring considerable research. Questions by telephone from "What was last Thursday's baseball score" to "What was the date of the San Francisco earthquake" flood this department with an average of between twenty and thirty per day.

A few figures upon the amount of material available in this department is a revelation in itself. More than two million index cards fill the steel cabinets made for the purpose. Steel shelves are laden with over a million photographs of individuals, places and events so numerous it would be impossible to name even a small portion of them. The International News Service and the local *Examiner* photographers both make their contributions to this collection which is added to to the extent of hundreds weekly. Files for three months back of all the Hearst papers are available with exception of the *New York American*, *New York Journal* and *San Francisco Examiner* which are sent to the bindery and kept for all time.

Space does not permit a detail of all the duties performed by the Los Angeles *Examiner* Library, but from the above it may be easily seen how the universal but now inappropriate name of "morgue" is going to be replaced by the name "Newspaper Library."

The Los Angeles Times Library

Esther G. Henes, Librarian

AS newspaper libraries go, that of the *Los Angeles Times* is unusually complete and well equipped, with a modern filing system, and arranged, as newspaper libraries must be, to give quick access to the information news writers and editorial writers require.

All issues of each month are placed in permanent bindings and retained in the library for reference. These files extend back to December, 1881, when *The Times*, now one of the world's greatest newspapers, was established in the form of a country paper in a small town.

By systematic gleaning of the news of the day and its collection in cases, together with books and pamphlets, a room 40 x 30 feet has been filled from floor to ceiling.

Every local item of possible future value is clipped from every issue of *The Times* and filed. This means about two hundred separate clippings each day, which are stowed away in envelopes. The items are filed according to the person or event to which they pertain, so that some of the containers bulge inches thick with hundreds of columns of news stories recounting the doings of a man of prominence.

A complete index on both local and international matters is maintained, running up into hundreds of thousands of entries. The date of the issue, the page and column is notated on the index card so that by reference to the bound volumes it can be found readily. Therefore, with this means of locating quickly affairs of the past, there is kept ready at hand for the use of reporters and the public a history of the activities of man throughout the world.

Every photograph taken by *Times* photographers or delivered to the newspaper by any of several picture services is filed and kept in the library. At present one hundred and twenty-eight thousand envelopes containing photographs, in many cases holding three or more pictures, are in the cabinets.

All negatives as well are retained,

these now numbering more than twenty thousand. A cross-file of fifty-four thousand cards lists individuals in photographs, so that persons may be identified separately in group pictures.

Approximately five thousand volumes, on every variety of subject, comprise the general library of *The Times*. The books most constantly in demand are encyclopedias. Hundreds of reference works occupy other shelves. These volumes are augmented by publications and pamphlets issued by the national, state and local governments and by societies and organizations. A wide variety of topics are touched upon in these papers, and there is a constant call for all manner of information.

The extensive nature of the library is necessary in the publication of *The Times* primarily because of the vast need for swift information upon subjects ranging from the cost of a destroyer to the proper feeding of Alaskan reindeer. A writer frequently finds it imperative to secure exact intelligence upon a certain matter, and that information must be close at hand. In writing the news of the day reference must be made to past events, and memory cannot be relied upon when each day several hundred separate local items are printed.

San Francisco Bulletin Library

Margaret Hart, Librarian

"Will you send out clips, art, and metal on the rum runner 'Quadra'—twenty minutes to make an edition." In a second the envelope of clippings on "Liquor" were out of the file, pictures on rum-runners were being gone through, and the card index searched for a record of a cut. There is very often a time limit in looking up material for an afternoon newspaper, for there are half a dozen editions during the day, and to make for speed, the *Bulletin* library is being reorganized: the thousands of clippings mounted, the photographs more closely subdivided, and the cuts changed from a numerical system, which involves the use of a card index, to a straight alphabetical file.

San Francisco Chronicle Library

Bonnie Stanislausky, Librarian

IN the *San Francisco Chronicle* Library the clippings are by far the most important part of the collection. These clippings are taken from the *Chronicle*, of which the whole of the last edition is clipped and other editions for stories appearing exclusively in them; the *San Francisco Examiner*, the *Call* and the *Bulletin* are likewise clipped for exclusive stories. Clippings are mounted on uniform size paper, a different color for every year, with the date stamped on them. They are filed under three main classifications—biography, subject and geography. Anything that has to do with any person, doings of famous people, marriage, death, cases of embezzlement, would be filed as biography under the principal person's name. If more than one person were involved, cross references from each of the others to the main person would be made.

Such general matters as are of sufficient importance to warrant their being given a separate heading, as for instance, aviation, banking, municipal affairs and countless other matters are grouped under the general heading of Subject. For this, the A.L.A. List of Subject Headings is used.

The clippings which fall under geography are those which pertain specifically to a country—the riots in India, the war in Morocco, the cabinet of France, and so on. The larger part of the filing cases for geography clippings is given over to countries of the world, a smaller portion to states of the United States, and then California is given a part.

No index of the library is used since all filing is alphabetical and easy to find. The names and letter combinations under biography run from A to Z, under geography from Abyssinia to Zanzibar, and from army, automobiles and aviation to war in the subject clippings. Cross references are used from subject to biography and vice versa, and from geography to both of these.

Pictures are filed under names like biography clippings, and subject pictures under the same general headings as the subject clippings. The pictures which appear in the paper are brought into the library every morning, checked off the paper, dated and filed. Pictures are sent by the various services whose business it is to supply them on important cases. "Underwood and Underwood," and "Wide World Service" are two such organizations. These also are filed, making about one hundred pictures on an ordinary day.

The zinc cuts are filed alphabetically, here again eliminating any need of an index. The pictures are cut from the paper and pasted on different size envelopes according to the size of the cut, whether it be one, two or three columns wide. The date is stamped on the outside of the envelope, and the cut is then put in and the envelope filed in its steel cabinet.

These three things make up the routine work of the library—the clippings, the pictures and the cuts.

Of course there are questions asked which the clippings will not answer, and for these there are a great many ready reference books, such as the various Who's Who publications, *The World Almanac*, *The Chicago Daily News Almanac*, *Ayers' Newspaper Directory*, encyclopedias, atlases, the *Congressional Record*, the *Congressional Directory* and other government reports, pamphlets on a host of subjects, maps and books on different countries, financial directories, directories of biographies, dictionaries, and various publications that are being constantly revised to keep them up-to-date.

The modern newspaper library, the "morgue" of a past day, is a necessity to the running of a newspaper though it is little appreciated by the laity. Its technicalities have been developed by the specific requirements of a newspaper, speed and flexibility, and perhaps influenced by the well-known irascibility of newspaper writers and artists working under pressure.

Libraries in Banking Institutions

The library of the Federal Reserve Bank of the Twelfth District and other bank libraries of importance constitute a strong group.

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco Library

Hilda W. Palache, Librarian

THIS organization has the distinction of being the first financial library in San Francisco, having been started in 1919. It has grown from about fifty to over twelve hundred volumes which include: encyclopedias, annual reports of the Secretary of the Treasury and Comptroller of the Currency from 1900 to date, *Commercial and Financial Chronicle*, 1873 to date, reports and bulletins of the Federal Reserve Board and the standard books on banking, finance and economics. The books are classified by the Julia E. Elliott Business Library classification.

As is the case in most special libraries, however, books are not of as much importance as periodicals and pamphlets, containing up-to-the-minute information on financial matters. About eighty periodicals are received regularly and several news-services and newspapers. The more important of these are clipped and the clippings pasted on loose-leaf sheets, with a typed digest, if the article is of some length, on the same page. The clippings are put in a binder and routed to the different officers, after which they are returned to the library and filed. As the *Industrial Arts Index*, to which we subscribe, indexes most of the periodicals only a few of the local financial magazines are indexed in the library.

The library works in close co-operation with the Division of Analysis and Research, which is engaged in studies affecting business conditions in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District and publishes the *Monthly Review of Business Conditions*.

A small self-supporting fiction library is maintained and the latest books may be borrowed for 2 cents a day.

Mercantile Trust Company of California Library

Annette Windele, Librarian

FOLLOWING the consolidation of the old San Francisco Savings Union with the Mercantile National and the Mercantile Trust Company, the present Mercantile Trust Company of California was organized in 1920. The new company then began the publication of the monthly magazine now issued under the title of the *Mercantile Trust Review of the Pacific*. The scope of the review includes the eleven western states of the Pacific coast region and the foreign trade of the countries bordering the Pacific Ocean. The publication of the review became the chief concern of the Bureau of News and Research organized for this purpose, and of which the library is a part.

The accumulation of statistical material relative to the diversified development of the Pacific coast territory form the basis of the collection. This consists of government and state publications, a large pamphlet collection and a newspaper clipping file, in addition to the customary reference collection and a circulating library of the standard books in the field of banking and finance for the general use of employees. The library receives ninety-three periodicals and ten daily newspapers. Clippings are sent out daily to officers interested in special subjects and all of the periodicals are circulated on demand.

It is the aim of the library to have readily available the most recent statistics procurable on any of the many subjects brought up for research or treated in the pages of the review and to furnish information of all sorts to any department or employee.

The library furnishes bibliographies on financial and other subjects and reading lists for individual needs. In this connection the distribution of A.L.A. reading lists has been well received.

Library of the First National Bank of Los Angeles Pacific-Southwest Trust & Savings Bank

Alice M. Scheck, Librarian

AMONG the pioneers on the Pacific coast, in the establishment of a banking library, was the First National-Pacific-Southwest banking group. No bank in Los Angeles had such a department when this one was organized in the fall of 1920. At that time the library consisted of a mere handful of books and pamphlets, scattered around in various departments of the two banks, a few banking and financial magazines coming to the bank, and read only by those who happened to see them.

Realizing that such a department was a necessity and an asset in modern business development, the officers of the banks approved its establishment and the work of collecting and making available a mass of scattered material was begun. At that time there was only the librarian, with occasional help from not-busy-at-the-time stenographers, to do the work, but such has been its growth that there is now a trained assistant, as well as the librarian.

In the early part of 1921 a Research Department was organized for the joint benefit of both banks. The library is an integral part of its organization, supplying the necessary material for studies, whenever possible, and caring for all new material acquired in the course of these studies. At the present time the Research Department and the library are so closely bound together that they seldom are considered as separate units. They are housed in the same quarters and in every way operate as one body.

Beginning with a very few books on banking and financial subjects the collection has grown to include all the necessary reference tools, as well as the latest books on the subjects in which banks are interested. These now number more than four hundred. They are classified according to the business library classification of Julia E. Elliott, and cataloged

with many and numerous subject headings and analyticals. The subject headings are selected to suit the particular needs of this institution, and much leeway is allowed in choosing them.

The publications of the government are indispensable, particularly those of the Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, Department of Agriculture, Department of Labor, Treasury, etc., and similar publications of the state of California also form a large part of our file collection. Between fifty and sixty magazines are received and circulated among officers and department heads, and a selected list of these are bound for permanent retention. Others are kept only six months or a year. The four local daily newspapers are clipped, though not exhaustively, and financial papers from Chicago and New York are on file.

A list of new books is posted on the Staff Bulletin Board at irregular intervals, and once a month, in the bank newspaper, a list, with annotations, is printed. Also, in this same internal newspaper, the librarian has short digests of important articles which have appeared in recent banking and financial periodicals. Every one of the more than two thousand employees of this large banking system receives a copy of this newspaper each month, and so it is possible to reach them all with news of the library.

All orders for books, magazines, directories, etc., for use in the banks and branches are placed through the Research Department, thus giving a centralized control of such orders, and also making it possible to keep a record of such material. A record is also kept of the various services used in different departments of the banks. In the library and Research Department only the Harvard Economic Service, and a good local business and economic service are taken.

The pamphlet and other fugitive material is arranged in a very simple alphabetical file, in legal-sized filing cases, under subjects easily found. It is our plan to keep only such material as is alive and pertinent, and to discard anything which is not often used, relying upon the com-

prehensive collection of our excellent Public Library for extensive research of any sort.

Bank Library and Adult Education

Bank of Italy, San Francisco

By K. Dorothy Ferguson, Librarian

UNLIKE most professions, young men coming into the banking profession, come generally without having previously undergone any apprenticeship.

Young bank clerks are mostly raw material to be molded slowly by study and experience into men of integrity, men of wide knowledge, men of standing, men who are leaders.

I like to think of a bank library as one of the main aids in this process of character molding and education. As soon as the young lads come into the bank, a personal letter is sent them giving them a warm welcome to our family and urging them to make use of the library for their advancement.

This message reaches them at a time when their enthusiasm is alive, when they are entering on a new job with a wonderful vision ahead of what they hope to achieve. The response we receive from these letters in visits from the new employees is very nearly 100 per cent.; and once they are entered on our list, a very small effort on our part keeps them coming back for more information and new inspiration.

We follow the employee as he progresses from one department to another, feeding him with the material he needs to meet the new demands that his new duties and position have placed upon him.

Time has failed us, otherwise an interesting study could have been made of whether the library devotee, the student, who not only began to study but who kept at it, did not hold down his job with a greater degree of efficiency than those who did not avail themselves of the opportunity, and whether he did not climb far quicker the ladder of success.

Belonging to this family of the Bank of Italy, I like to think of each of our

fellow co-workers as a potential vice-president and president. I like to think that each has the same chance for success and advancement and that the library can through its numerous services place this opportunity of advancement and success ever before them, ever within their grasp and make of our men the best informed of their profession.

The following allegory conveys, perhaps, far better than any words of mine this idea that success is obtainable, that success is within the reach of every employee if he uses his intelligence rightly, if he will but persevere.

An Allegory

A lad started on the Journey of Life and he came to a Wonderful Castle, with walls of marble and doors of bronze.

And the Doors were fastened with three great Locks and the Keyholes were like three great I's.

And the Lad sought entrance and could find none, save through the Doors of Bronze.

And he studied the Locks and out of Study came the first key—Intelligence. And he fitted the Key of Intelligence into one of the locks and the bolt withdrew and a little door opened and there was a Book called Information. And the Lad read the Book and he Worked to Apply its teachings. And as he worked the Key of Industry grew in his hands and it fitted the second lock.

And as the bolt withdrew, behold another small door opened and there were Tools for forcing Locks, and they were marked The Easy Way.

But the Lad said to himself, "It is not the Easy Way, but the Right Way I seek," and suddenly there appeared among the tools a Key of Gold marked Integrity.

And it fitted the Third Lock and the Lad entered.

In the first room was a table and on the table was a thin book—*The Will to Learn*. And he read it and passed on.

And in the next room was a book entitled *The Will to Work*.

And he read it and passed on.

And in the third room was a book entitled *The Will to Persevere*, and he read it and passed on.

And in the fourth room he stood face to face with Opportunity.

And Opportunity took him by the hand to the Treasure Room of Success.

Security Trust and Savings Bank, Los Angeles, California

E. O'Toole, Librarian

THE Reference Library of the Security Trust and Savings Bank was organized as the working laboratory of the Department of Research and Service in February, 1921. The principal function of the library is to serve the research department by collecting all material that would be of possible use in the work of the department. The library, however, is a useful part of the entire organization of the bank through its ability to serve the officers and various departments, the employees and the general public.

The reference work of the library consists mainly in supplying information in regard to industries, agricultural activities, business conditions and social life of southern California. Any question, supplying the answer to which will render a service, is regarded as a legitimate one,

however, and many are answered that have remote connection with business libraries. The circulation of magazines and clippings among members of the staff is considered a very valuable service and requires the full time of two assistants. There are, at the present time, fifty newspapers clipped, circulated and filed and forty periodicals indexed and circulated.

The library builds up and maintains the equipment of books, reports, pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers and other material necessary to its work. A highly useful and valuable file of pamphlets, reports and publications of various kinds has been collected and is of great aid in affording immediate answers to reference questions. A file of statements, reports and publications of banks in different parts of the United States and foreign countries is maintained. Government publications form a basis of much of the information compiled. Trade periodicals are indispensable in giving current information. A file of clippings on a great variety of subjects is maintained and serves very advantageously for current information and source material. It has not been the intention to gather an extensive collection of books in the library, and only those are acquired which are of use and interest in the practical work of this and other departments.

Motion Picture Libraries

A unique feature of southern California is the thriving motion picture industry. Three librarians in this field graphically present the stories of their libraries.

The Research Department of the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation in Hollywood, California

Helen Gladys Percy, Librarian

TO every reader of SPECIAL LIBRARIES research is familiar, but to very few of them is the amusing conglomeration of fact and fancy which forms the everyday work of a motion picture research department even imaginable. Lewis Carroll might have been describing it when he wrote:

"The time has come," the Walrus said,
To talk of many things:
Of shoes—and ships—and sealing wax—
Of cabbages—and kings—
And why the sea is boiling hot—
And whether pigs have wings."

"Shoes?" Yes, shoes for the Prodigal Son in the Wanderer; shoes for the queen of Philip IV of Spain; shoes for a dance hall girl during the Vigilante days in San Francisco.

"Ships?" Viking ships for Michael and Digby in Beau Geste; Malayan praus for Lord Jim; Eskimo kayaks for

the Alaskan; plans and details of the Constitution for "Old Ironsides."

"And sealing-wax"—for a death warrant signed by Catharine the Great; for a letter carried by a Pony Express rider.

"Of cabbages": what kind of vegetables and fruits could be used for a feast in the days of Harun-al-Rashid? what in seventeenth century Spain? What did they sell at French markets during the war, and what prices did they charge?

"And kings": of Egypt and Italy, Persia and Turkey—uniforms, ceremonies and general court etiquette.

"Why the sea is boiling hot and whether pigs have wings." Not so very different from trying to locate fictitious places that novelists write into descriptions of countries, or finding suitable castles for the planet Mars!

We literally follow a picture if not from its birth to its death, at least until it is married to the theaters, and lives happily ever after. First of all, we help locate novels, plays, short stories for the Story Department when it is trying to find a suitable vehicle for some star. The story decided upon, a writer is selected to make a treatment, that is an adaptation which is suitable for a picture. If it is a period story the writer will undoubtedly say "Get me everything available on that period—fiction, biography, drama, history and travel." After he has steeped himself in the atmosphere of the time, the continuity (the outline which the director uses as a guide) is written and copies are distributed to all the departments concerned with the production.

Then our work with the departments begins. Take for instance *Sea Horses* by Francis Brett Young, which we have just made. First there is an Italian sequence. The Art Department came to us for pictures of exteriors and interiors of Italian farmhouses, of shops, streets and wharves. The Costume Department wanted peasants, policemen, postmen, sailors, street vendors, and stevedores. The Paint Shop needed street signs and automobile license plates. The Property Department small boats, trappings for donkeys, and spaghetti wagons. The Plaster Shop, Catholic images.

The next sequence is aboard a British freighter. This meant locating pictures of exteriors and interiors of freight boats, uniforms of the ship's officers, and various properties, such as a ship's mail bag, a Chinese image and a deck chair.

The last sequence is laid in Portuguese East Africa, which required views of the country showing shrubs, foliage and general characteristics, for the Location Department; Portuguese houses and stores, and native huts, for the Art Department; officials, civilians, and natives for the Costume Department; while the Pomeroy Department (which makes volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, deluges and other phenomena) wanted the "habits" of typhoons!

Our own collection, mainly architectural, art, costume and travel books and magazines, numbers nearly four thousand, with very large numbers of photographs, clippings, post cards, and stereoscopic views in vertical files. In addition we augment the library with loans from the Los Angeles Public Library, which never fails to give us the most interested help.

Out of the forty departments in the studio, there is not one that does not use the Research Department, while there are usually from five to ten companies producing pictures, besides. From all of them there is an increased demand for more careful research, and as this grows, so will the library.

The Fox Studio Library

George Ingleton, Librarian

LIBRARIES of Hollywood motion picture studios are becoming an important part of the modern library system and Fox Films has one of the most efficient and interesting.

This library, like the older and larger general collections, is the result of carefully-tended growth. However, it differs from others assembled for special purposes as it is intended to aid in motion picture making and to do this it must be world-wide in scope and without limit as to time, because it is the aim of Fox Films to make productions that accurately reflect, to the most minute details,

the everyday life of not only modern peoples and every land, but of times long past.

To accomplish this purpose it would appear that a vast collection would be necessary, but so far the Fox Films Library has met all demands with some five thousand volumes and half a million clippings. These are supplemented by photographs and a wide variety of picture postcards, which, by the way, have proved of great value in the creation of foreign street scenes and building exteriors.

The best proof of the ability of the Fox Library to meet demands, is that all Fox Films productions for the past season were created with no other library assistance than that found in the studio. Scenario writers, the technical staff, the costume designers and the scene constructors obtained all the details necessary for the following film dramas: "Siberia," a drama of Russia and its political exile system; "Yellow Fingers," a story of the South Seas dealing with native races and their customs; "Fig Leaves," which includes sequences picturing the latest in women's modes, and other scenes laid in the Garden of Eden with pre-historic monsters, the bones of which scientists discovered only recently; "The Palace of Pleasure," a Portuguese story centering about the life of Lola Montez; "3 Bad Men," a picture history of the dramatic land rush to the Dakotas; "The Ancient Mariner," a film version of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poem; "The Gilded Butterfly," which has the greater part of its setting in France; "The Winding Stair," a story of Morocco and Algiers; "The Johnstown Flood," a picture history of the catastrophe which obliterated cities and cost thousands of lives. A feature of especial interest in this regard is that Fox Films library had Pittsburgh, Pa., newspapers telling the full story of the flood, published the day after the catastrophe and the succeeding two weeks; "The Outsider," a drama of psychology and medicine, scenes for which were laid in England and the Gypsy country of Austria; "As No Man Has Loved," a film version of *The Man Without a Country*; "Havoc," laid in England and in the trenches in France.

These are but a few productions in the making of which the studio library was of great assistance.

Fox Films Library material is divided and cataloged in a number of classes with cross references. Among the divisions are:

Architecture, in which all countries, periods and types of structure are represented, together with details about metal work, other exterior and interior ornamentation, mural designs, draperies, paintings and sculptures, art glass and china.

Biographies, which give details of the every-day life of the important personages and the every-day man back as far as there is any shadowy record.

Costumes, in which are descriptions, line drawings, woodcuts and photographs of men, women and children the world over during all periods which it has been possible to cover. In this division are included liveries, uniforms, court dresses and such special designs as ancient town criers, students, notaries and the varying ranks of Chinese merchants.

Dictionaries, including encyclopedias, quotations, almanacs and other reference volumes of a wide variety.

Fairy tales and myths have a division of their own.

Adventure, real stories of real experiences and not fiction, provide a lot of material and is a rapidly increasing section.

History, embracing the best books on the history of the world to date.

The World War has a section of its own and this material is constantly increasing.

Games and sports have an ever widening division.

Heraldry, coats of arms and peerages are cataloged together.

Marine includes all varieties of information about war craft and merchant shipping of all periods.

Natural history is a broad division to which additions are continuously made.

Religions have a section of their own.

Stage plays are a wide field for motion pictures and there are hundreds of these with reference books, settings, illustra-

tions, books on dancing and all the operas.

Maps have one of the most important sections and one of the most difficult to fill adequately because geographers of foreign countries, with a few exceptions, have not given the subject the same attention it has received in the United States.

Travel is the most fruitful section for the motion picture maker and the largest division in Fox Films Library, because the traveler sticks to facts in recording his wanderings and experiences, frequently illustrating with photographs out of the way corners about which he alone has written.

The half million clippings are of even more importance than the books of the library. These clippings are from a wide variety of sources, principally culled from the news columns of daily papers and magazines and from their illustrations, but included with these are thousands of photographs and picture post-cards from all over the world and this section can never be complete because each day some new material for it comes to hand.

These clippings are indexed and cross indexed and filed away in carefully arranged order in large folders dealing with various subjects but all so ordered that their use is not cumbersome, in other words, there is no suggestion of system for the sake of system, in their arrangement.

"The best 'hunting' field for motion picture library material has been the second hand book stores of Los Angeles, New York, Boston and Philadelphia," says George Ingleton, librarian who made the Fox Films collection. "I have had to do a lot of browsing among unassorted piles of books but out of these I obtained the most valuable portions of this library.

"No book has been purchased for its rare binding. There are a few first editions but these were not purchased as such. A book, to get into this library, must be of some use in motion picture production and of the five thousand now here all have been used and proved their value at least once. Others are in con-

tinuous use and each has more than paid for itself ten-fold in the saving of time and effort.

"We are always in the market for something of value to us, but the time required for careful scrutiny of material offered is tremendous, because few persons realize just what we require and take up their own and other's time in attempting to obtain high prices for books and collections that are of little or no value to a motion picture studio."

The Research Library of Universal Pictures Corporation, Universal City, Cal.

Betty Lord Fitzpatrick, Librarian

THE Research Library of Universal Pictures Corporation was organized ten years ago by Mr. LeRoy Armstrong, who continued as its librarian until recently. His work was pioneering in the field of motion picture research service, involving the building up of a splendid collection of historical and architectural works and a comprehensive selection of general research information.

The library as it now exists, consists of the following collections:

1. Approximately fifteen hundred volumes, cataloged and indexed for information and pictures, most of them valuable works pertaining to art, architecture, history, travel, and biography. The majority of these are for circulation on the lot, and are loaned for various periods upon application and signature.

2. Files of bound magazines, as complete as possible, for short loans only. *Harper's Magazine* and *Harper's Weekly*, abounding in pictures, are especially invaluable for contemporary history, customs, and costume.

3. A collection of about four thousand pictures, mounted on cards eleven by fourteen inches, labeled, and filed alphabetically. Loans of these pictures comprise nearly 50 per cent. of the library's service.

4. A file of pamphlets and clippings, arranged alphabetically by subject. This includes booklets issued by the railroads

for advertising purposes, pages and articles clipped from magazines, etc.

5. Current magazines, some of which are kept intact, filed, and indexed, and the others clipped for pictures and excerpts.

It is safe to say that the Technical Department of the studio avails itself of the library's service more than does any other department, and that pictures are much more useful than reading material. It happens occasionally that one particular book which may have but infrequent circulation is invaluable once in its life, and saves the studio hundreds of dollars which would otherwise be spent on

exhaustive research. However, many volumes are thumb-worn from frequent use. The Editorial Department constantly turns to Emily Post's *Book of Etiquette*, to verify the correctness of certain situations filmed. *Stoddard's Lectures, Living London*, Latham's books on English interiors, *The National Geographic Magazine*, *The Illustrated London News*, books of ornament and design, and historical works all have their share of popularity.

Although the books and pictures are circulated, it is the librarian's duty to do the actual research work, which often involves much time and more ingenuity.

The Relationship of the Public Library to the Special Library

In the two leading cities of the state, the public library and the special library render material aid as the following articles indicate.

Los Angeles Public Library

Everett R. Perry, Librarian
Faith Holmes Hyers, Publicity
Department

AN instructor in library economy has said: "Librarianship is the only profession in which there are no secrets." This is another way of saying that libraries exist for the purpose of the diffusion of knowledge. Our *raison d'être* is to publish, to make free the knowledge contained in print. The ideal state will be one in which all educational agencies co-operate in assistance given and received according to their respective resources and capacities, toward the general public benefit.

Some cities have made a beginning in the direction of ideal free library service, maintaining a clearing-house of information of sources of available material, and avoiding unnecessary duplication whenever possible. Southern California, comparatively young in library history, is making rapid strides toward co-ordination of effort in her Special Libraries Association. The recent publication of the *Union List of Periodicals*, besides furnishing a valuable list of available magazine material is an indication of future development of united interests.

The Los Angeles Public Library, through its specialized departments stands ready to give service to special libraries through its reference and circulating collections. On the other hand the Public Library acknowledges its indebtedness to the aid in research, statistics and surveys made by the librarians of the technical, commercial and other libraries of the city. Because of greater storing facilities and the necessarily inclusive material on related subjects, the Public Library is able to offer assistance to specialized research workers. A depository for state and Federal publications, maintaining bound files of many technical, economic, industrial and art periodicals as well as local and outstanding newspapers, providing every known index and aid to research, the Los Angeles Library is, and should be a clearing-house of information, a centralizing point at which the diversified interests of the city may focus.

Because of its greater space and storing capacity, the library binds many of the periodicals which special libraries are not able to keep on file. Sociology Department receives for binding gift copies of financial magazines from bank libraries. The government documents, the treasury reports, statistics and in-

dexes are in much demand. Current financial columns of domestic and foreign papers are consulted in the Periodical and Newspaper Room.

The Science and Industry Department has daily calls from special librarians for reference to the one hundred trade directories, the ten thousand trade catalogs, the five hundred technical periodicals and the special indexes of periodical material. The fact that the principal of this department served for five years as librarian of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York, gives her a particular interest in the mutual assistance special libraries and the public library may render.

The Art and Reference Departments of the library are able to give frequent aid to the librarian or research worker of the motion picture studios. Traditional customs, verification of details in costume or setting, period backgrounds, the construction of cathedrals, cottages, castles all may be furthered by recourse to the collections of the library. A mounted picture collection of twenty thousand items is much in demand. The library photographer makes reproductions for studio use of plates from reference volumes. Photostat service will be maintained in the new building.

With the completion of the new building in July, with the greater facilities for quiet study and growing collections, the library will be in a position to offer more efficient service. The building promises to be a remarkable combination of artistry and practical design. Ideally situated with entrances on four streets, the spreading three-story structure is lifted and unified by the central square tower. This tower, in addition to providing the architectural feature for exterior and interior decoration, roofs a central rotunda on the main floor from which passages radiate to the reading rooms, which are placed on the perimeter of the building for the utilization of light. At the corners of the rotunda are four steel stacks, extending seven stories, with a capacity of one million books. On the first two floors are thirteen public reading rooms, a civics and

exhibit hall, storage and bindery quarters. A mezzanine balcony provides private study and club rooms. The third floor is devoted to administrative quarters, staff rooms, library school suite and departments of the library which do not deal directly with the public.

Sculptural, mural and inscriptive decorations form a study in themselves. Los Angeles is peculiarly fortunate in having secured the services of the late Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue as architect for this civic building. Ably carried out by his Los Angeles associate, Carleton M. Winslow, the spirit of the architectural design adhered to, by sculptor, painter and builder, the worthiness and beauty of the building is an accomplished fact. The giving of service equally worthy of the high purpose of a public library is an anticipated desire.

San Francisco Public Library

Robert Rea, Librarian

The Public Library is one of two large splendidly equipped libraries in San Francisco, which supplements the collections of the special libraries.

San Francisco Public Library contains many special collections with an excellent reference service. Facts not easily obtainable in ordinary reference books, are located, and many authorities are consulted to arrive at the most complete and accurate data possible. Telephone service makes the required information quickly available.

Material frequently consulted includes: directories from many places; current newspapers from all over the world, as well as bound copies of all San Francisco papers, and a few from New York and London, with indexes to assist in their use; government publications; books on chemistry, engineering and other technical subjects, and periodicals needed for reference by the business libraries of the city.

(Turn to page 251)

Special Libraries in Universities

We have selected three representative special libraries in California for descriptive sketches. We regret that space does not permit the inclusion of a greater number.

The Fiske Library at the University of California, Southern Branch

THE passing of the library of the eminent historian, John Fiske, to the University of California, Southern Branch, is a significant event. The adding of this collection to the resources of the University placed a well balanced group of nearly ten thousand volumes which are reported to be surprisingly free from the ephemeral literature that often forms a part of a literary man's library. Fiske was a scholar of such unusual attainments that his books reflect the wide range of his reading which covered the entire gamut of philosophy, religion and history. In addition, he had a strong love for the classics, for music and for literature.

Space will not permit a full description of the John Fiske Library, but within the collection are volumes upon the great classical writers, the writings of the scientists and evolutionists of the nineteenth century and the great philosophers of the same period. Dr. Fiske was interested in folklore and the library contains numerous books upon the early Irish, Norse and Celt legends. The library is especially strong in the field of history, containing practically all the more important works of the great historians in the past century. Dr. Fiske's study of Americana has brought the library a great many volumes on the growth of geographical knowledge and the lives of great navigators. The collection also includes a valuable group of portraits, engravings and photographs accumulated by Dr. Fiske during his lifetime.

The acquisition of this library by the University of California has been the cause of much favorable comment in the newspapers of the Pacific coast and an indication of another strong link between east and west.

The Architecture Library at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Cal.

Charlotte Brown, Librarian

THE library of an architectural school is the most important element of its equipment. Nearly all architectural work, and especially the work of the student, must necessarily be based upon the traditions of the past, a reference to which can be had only through the facilities of a good library. In order to be of the most value, it must be placed in close proximity to the drafting rooms where the students in the design classes may have ready access to the reference material. Recognizing this fact, the University began to gather together a small working library in the architecture building as soon as the department was organized.

In 1923, the collection of books was greatly enlarged through the gift of Mr. A. F. Rosenheim, a Los Angeles architect, and later through the additional gifts by Professor Rexford Newcomb of the University of Illinois, and by the Allied Architects Association of this city. There are now six hundred architectural books, eight hundred bound volumes of magazines, and eighteen hundred mounted photographs. This library embraces sufficient general reference material for the regular work of such a school, including the history of architecture and ornament courses as well as the courses in design. However, on account of limited funds available and the necessity of building up an adequate working library as rapidly as possible, the efforts of the school have been concentrated upon gathering reference material on those periods and styles from which the architecture of southern California derives its principal influences. The material best suited to the needs of such classes are illustrations

of buildings, especially large scale details, either in book form or mounted photographs. Also, measured drawings and drawn details of good historic examples are very valuable, and it is along these lines that much of the library has been arranged.

It is impossible to obtain the maximum results from such a library unless the material is arranged so that it is easily accessible to the students. Also, the librarian in charge should be capable of intelligently advising and directing their efforts in searching for the best inspiration for their problems. In this regard, the School of Architecture is fortunate to have Mrs. Eleanor S. Wheatley, who has had charge of the library since it was first organized. Through her knowledge of the material and her keen interest in the work of the students, Mrs. Wheatley very ably supplements the efforts of the faculty.

The library is now housed in a spacious room in the new architecture building. All of the east side above the book cases is filled with windows which afford an ideal lighting arrangement for such a room. In one end, flanked by book shelves, is the additional feature of a great fireplace which gives a cozy touch to the room and helps to make the library a place where all of the students enjoy to work.

Hoose Library of Philosophy, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Cal.

Charlotte Brown, Librarian

ESTABLISHED in 1922 through the generosity of friends in memory of James Harmon Hoose, late head of the Department of Philosophy, Hoose Library of Philosophy at the University of Southern California provides facilities in the Pacific southwest for scholarly study in its field. Intended primarily as a research library, its steady growth is insured through a substantial and permanent endowment.

Over six thousand volumes have been accessioned to date, including above one

hundred and twenty incunabula, rarities, and manuscripts.

The library is rich in bibliographical material. The general section of the library contains a representative list of classical authors, standard commentaries, and text books, as well as sets of numerous philosophical and psychological journals.

The library is housed in Hoose Hall, Bovard Administration building, with a trained librarian in charge. It is an integral part of the general library and all books are cataloged in the union dictionary card catalog as well as in a separate dictionary catalog in the department.

(Continued from page 222)

San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company Library

civil and mechanical engineering, irrigation, etc., there are proceedings of technical societies, bound copies of all reports and decisions of the California Railroad Commission, Industrial Accident Commission, National Safety Council and numerous other reports. A complete file of electrical and engineering standards is kept.

Financial services provided by the library are first routed to those interested and then kept in readily accessible files in the library, as also are circular letters and bulletins of technical associations of which this company is a member.

(Continued from page 227)

The Mount Wilson Observatory Library

for study than the central room. Dr. Hale, director of the Observatory from 1904 to 1923, and now honorary director, has presented the Observatory with very fine framed copies of well-known portraits of Michael Faraday, Thomas Young, and Sir William Huggins, the latter hanging in the library itself and the others in the corridor outside, and also the beginning of a collection of framed photographs of astronomers. These pictures enhance the feeling of atmosphere lent by the general quietness of the place, its pleasing, rather subdued coloring, and the walls covered with books, whose bindings, particularly the half morocco of many of the periodical sets blend into the whole picture.

Statistical Associations

Two important organizations promote statistical research on the Pacific coast. Their activities deserve a place in this California number.

Los Angeles Chapter of the American Statistical Association

George J. Eberle, Secretary

IN the early part of 1925, Mr. W. I. King, Secretary of the American Statistical Association, suggested that a local organization be formed in Los Angeles to represent the work of the national association in the southwest. In answer to his letter of January 16, 1925 he was informed by a number of statisticians in Los Angeles that they were willing to form a local chapter of the national association. A constitution and by-laws was drawn up and submitted to the national association which was approved and later adopted by the local chapter.

The first meeting was held on May 19, 1925. Meetings are held monthly and the purpose is to discuss technical statistical problems. Some of the subjects presented have been as follows: "The Comparison of Local and National Business Cycles;" "Investment Forecasting;" "Statistics in the Telephone Industry;" "The Determination of Secular Trend in Los Angeles Building Permit Values;" "The Relation of Federal Reserve Policies to Price Stabilization;" "Fluctuations in Real Estate Transfers in Los Angeles;" "The Local Population Problem;" "The Velocity of Bank Deposits in Los Angeles" and other subjects.

It is the rule of the local chapter of the American Statistical Association that each prospective member present a paper before the chapter on some phase of statistical work, and upon the presentation of this paper and his other work it is decided as to his desirability as a member.

Practically all of the meetings are limited to certain phases of statistical work and it is the hope of the members that the chapter will have considerable influence in perfecting the development of local statistics, and to instill among the users of statistics a greater apprecia-

tion of authentic and reliable data properly interpreted, analyzed and applied.

The Scope of Activities of the Western Statistical Association

Victor W. Killick, Secretary

THE Western Statistical Association was organized in Los Angeles, February 23, 1923, by a group of men representing the statistical and economic research departments of some of the foremost industrial and business concerns operating in the city and vicinity.

The primary objects of the association are "to advance in quality and scope the science of statistical research; to promote the collection, compilation and distribution, the preservation and use of statistics; to stimulate interest; to promote scientific method; to encourage endeavor, and to award merit." (Art II, Sec. 1, Constitution)

There are several classifications of membership permitting enrollment both of professional statisticians and others who may be interested in the work but not actively engaged in it as a business.

In recent years the scope of the association's activities have been materially broadened. The field of statistics proper is one of rather poorly defined limits. On every hand it touches and overlaps that of economics. It has therefor come about in quite a natural way that the activities of the association also include in their scope the study of economics in relation to statistics, which idea is not necessarily conveyed to the mind in the name of the organization as it stands.

The present membership has been augmented by men representing leading banks, public utilities, some of our big lishments, the Chamber of Commerce, private corporations, mercantile establishments, the national economic services, civic associations, county, state, municipal and Federal government departments. These men exchange ideas at a general meeting held once a month.

At each meeting specially qualified experts in different lines of statistical and economic work are obtained to address the group. Usually the speakers are specialists from outside the membership but some of the most appreciated talks have been delivered by our own members.

The Western Statistical Association is strictly a "professional" type of organization. It is absolutely non-political in character and its constitution forbids entrance into any matter even encroaching on politics. However, it does stand for community welfare in all matters related to statistics and economics. It has consistently fought for accuracy and strenuously opposed misrepresentation and deception in statistics wherever its influence extends.

One of the most popular movements started by the organization in the general interest of the community was a population study of the city of Los Angeles. After two years of thorough research on the part of many of our members, the Board of Directors became convinced that the official figures on the city's population were misrepresenting the true economic significance of our real conditions to an alarming degree. Finally the association prepared its findings in a concrete form and drafted a resolution to the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce requesting that body to foster a movement which would cause the United States Census Bureau to take a special census of the city, as has been done elsewhere. The action of the Western Statistical Association met instant response and favorable action has been taken to consummate the idea.

The association has published a pamphlet written by one of our best qualified members on the subject of the population of Los Angeles. This presents some very reliable information and carefully formulated estimates on the population. Since it has been issued many concerns have requested copies of it and it has been freely distributed as an aid to these concerns in helping them to predicate their business demands of the future. A limited supply of the pamphlets has been reserved for others who may desire a copy of it. Address your requests to the

secretary, Western Statistical Association, 931 Rives-Strong Bldg., Los Angeles.

(Continued from page 199)

Practical Value of Industrial Research

doing in their own lines. There is such catholicity in research that there are no diplomatic secrets to be ferreted out, but there are well enunciated broad lines of knowledge which the investigator must be fully acquainted with in order to make his work applicable. The searcher after knowledge must be fully acquainted with the work of his predecessors and contemporaries in order to differentiate between what is known and what is yet to be learned. In these days of marvelous strides in practicalized knowledge team work is vital; there is no royal road to professional acquirement. More than two thousand years ago Terence wrote on wax-tablets the well-known lines beginning, "*Nil tam difficile*"—"Nothing is so difficult but that it may be found out by seeking."

(Continued from page 247)

The Relations of the Public Library to the Special Library

Mechanics'-Mercantile Library, San Francisco, California

F. B. Graves, Librarian

Another source of material to the special libraries of San Francisco is the Mechanics'-Mercantile Library, located in the center of the business district.

The Mechanics' Institute Library was started in 1855, furthering the aim of the organization to aid in the advancement of the mechanic arts and sciences. Later, the Mercantile Library was incorporated with it, adding a collection rich in literature and art. The earthquake and fire of 1906 destroyed the library but the new collection has duplicated many of the old files.

Of special value is its extensive collection of technical books and periodicals which forms an excellent source of information to the special libraries needing data on technical subjects.

Special Libraries

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

Founded 1909

A CLEARING HOUSE OF INFORMATION

Created to promote the interests of the commercial, industrial, technical, civic, municipal, legislative, welfare libraries, statistical bureaus and research organizations. Also to serve special departments of public libraries and universities

PUTTING KNOWLEDGE TO WORK

Executive Board

PRESIDENT—Daniel N. Handy, Insurance Library Association of Boston, 18 Oliver St, Boston, Mass.

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT—W. F. Jacob, General Electric Co., Schenectady, N.Y.

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT—Margaret Reynolds, First Wisconsin National Bank, Milwaukee, Wis.

SECRETARY-TREASURER—Gertrude D. Peterkin, Legal Dept., American Telephone & Telegraph Co., 195 Broadway, New York City.

BOARD MEMBERS—John Cotton Dana, Newark Public Library, Newark, N.J.; Rebecca B. Rankin, Municipal Reference Library, New York City.

Atlantic City Conference

D. N. HANDY, President of the Association, is devoting considerable time to the development of the program for the forthcoming meeting of the Special Libraries Association which will be held at Atlantic City, October 4 to 7, 1926, with headquarters at the Hotel Chelsea. Anyone who has not already placed his reservation should at once communicate with the Hotel Chelsea.

The President has appointed a Philadelphia committee, consisting of Miss Louise Keller, librarian, Independence Bureau, Miss Josephine B. Carson, librarian, American Brown Boveri Electric Corporation, and Miss Anna S. Bonsall, E. F. Houghton & Co., to arrange for meeting places at the hotel and to supply information headquarters and perform such other duties as naturally would come before a local committee. A Publicity Committee has also been appointed under the chairmanship of John Miller, librarian of the King Feature Syndicate, New York City, together with Paul P. Foster, librarian of the Philadelphia Inquirer, William Alcott, librarian of the Boston Globe and Joseph Kwapil, librarian of the Philadelphia Public Ledger. All questions of transportation will be handled by Franklin H. Price of the Philadelphia Free Library, who is a member of the A.L.A. Travel Committee.

The Association will also share in the exposition space occupied by the A.L.A. at the Philadelphia Sesquicentennial. The Exhibit Department will be in general charge of Mr. Joseph Kwapil.

In addition to the meetings announced in the April issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES, there will be numerous group meetings throughout the period. A Nominating Committee has been appointed consisting of Mr. Lewis A. Armistead, chairman, Miss Eleanor Cavanaugh, Mrs. Jennie L. Schram, Mr. D. F. Brown and Mr. Paul Foster.

The President of the Association or the Editor of SPECIAL LIBRARIES would be glad to receive suggestions regarding any feature of the conference.

Our Cover Design

For the cover design we are especially indebted to the General Petroleum Corporation whose generous gift enabled us to have the necessary cut made. This cut was taken from a full page story appearing in 1924 in the *Los Angeles Sunday Times*. When asked for his suggestions for a cover design Mr. Charles Owens, the well known *Times* artist, recalled his story of the old Washington Press. This printing press, the first to enter California, travelled from New York in 1848 by way of New Orleans and Panama, long before the present canal was dreamed of, to the San Francisco of gold rush days, thence to San Diego in 1851, a decade later it went to San Bernardino, thence to Aurora, no longer to be found on present day maps, and finally it came to rest, in Independence, Inyo County, California. In 1924 the old press was producing the *Inyo Independent*. The story of this old press rivetted our attention, so full of symbolism was it of all that goes to make up the modern library. Let the pilgrim press speak for itself:

"I am the press that the People's rights maintain, unaw'd by influence and unbrib'd by gain. Seventy-six long years have I seen come and go, the years of the winning of the West. When I was young I made the eagle scream for Zachary Taylor, the man without a vote. In Panama I was sunk fathoms five in the Chagres. I saw the California gold diggings at their worst and best. Mark Twain and John Derby of Phoenixiana fame often leaned over my form to see their maiden efforts in print.

"Now I am old, but egad! I can still do a day's work. If you don't believe it just ask my good master, Harry Glasscock, for I, who was once the *Dime Catcher* in Baton Rouge and the *Herald* in various cities and two languages, am now the *Inyo Independent* in the new land of the West.

"Men prate of steam presses, presses that can turn out their thousand sheets, all neatly folded, per hour. I am slow, but the sheets I turn out are clean and of fair impress. My history! I have struck upon all the chords of life with might; I have chronicled petty happenings and great; I have encompassed all of life."

Funds Needed for Convention

Plans are going forward rapidly for the exhibit of Special Libraries to be made in connection with the A.L.A. exposition in Philadelphia. The A.L.A. is seeking for anniversary purpose to collect \$35,000. S.L.A. has no need for such a large sum as this; there are, however, many expenses in connection with our meeting this year which must be met outside of our regular funds. These include an appropriate exhibit at the exposition, certain unusual convention expenses, and might very properly include some part of the cost of printing our Annual Meeting proceedings.

The President and Executive Committee are asking members to join in subscribing to a fund of not less than \$1,000 for these purposes. Checks are already coming in, but they should come in much more rapidly. This is an opportunity for every member to contribute in a small way to the betterment of the Association. Members are urged not only to contribute personally, but to request their libraries to contribute as well. The amounts need not be large. The aggregate is what will count.

Research on the Pacific Coast

We have selected for this page a few examples of research on the Pacific coast. The list does not pretend to be complete but is truly representative of a wide variety of undertakings.

The Pacific coast office of the American Petroleum Institute acts as a clearing house of the national institute in matters concerning the petroleum industry on the Pacific coast. Gathers and publishes monthly a *Summary of California Oil Field Operations*, giving statistics relating to the production and stocks of crude petroleum in the state, and the development of California oil fields. Issues other publications at intervals on the oil industry in California. Address: 315 Montgomery St., San Francisco, California.

The Bureau of Governmental Research was organized for the study of the improvement of municipal government. Reference material consists largely in data relating to progress in city administration throughout the United States. Address: 68 Post St., San Francisco, California.

California Retail Council is an organization of merchants and trade associations throughout northern California. A monthly meeting is held for the purpose of having special papers and discussions relating to the problems of retailing. Reference material consists of the best printed matter on these problems. Address: 451 California St., San Francisco, California.

California State Automobile Association was organized for the benefit of automobile tourists. Its research work includes the securing of data relating to state automobile registrations, traffic counts at various points, state laws affecting motorists, progress in road improvements, etc. Address: Hayes & Van Ness Sts., San Francisco, California.

Californians Inc. was organized with the purpose of serving without charge the tourist and prospective settler in California. It maintains a central bureau of information, adequately staffed to furnish authentic information as to agriculture, commerce, industry, and recreation, and will undertake to answer with carefully verified facts any question asked about California. Address: 140 Montgomery St., San Francisco, California.

Industrial Relations Association of California which functions as a personnel managers' club, has for its special object the making of studies pertinent to personnel problems in San Francisco business firms. Information contained in data files includes: general employment management, organization of employment departments, employment records and reports, labor turnover, mental and special ability tests, selection and placement, apprentice training, health and safety in industry, welfare activities, incentives, insurance, labor laws. Address: Flood Bldg., San Francisco, California.

San Francisco Bay Marine Piling Committee co-operates with the National Research Council and the American Wood-Preservers' Association in studying the preservation of wooden structures from the attack of borers and conducting an investigation into the value and proper use of the various substitutes for timber of which concrete is the most important. Issues annual *Progress Reports*. Address: 215 Market St., San Francisco, California.

Query

Rear-Admiral Elliot Snow, U.S.N., a Trustee of the Naval Historical Foundation, at Washington, D.C. desires information concerning a volume entitled *Naval Scenes of the Last War* (1812), written by Moses Smith, who was on the U.S.S. "Constitution" (Old Ironsides) during her engagement with the "Guerriere".

The book was evidently privately published, and there is no record of its ever having been copyrighted, and the Library of Congress states that it is not listed as being in any public library of the United States, nor in the British Museum.

Admiral Snow believes that if a copy of this publication can be found it may clear up several interesting points connected with the War of 1812. From the title he thinks it was published some time prior to the Mexican War.

Associations

The monthly meetings of the local associations are drawing to a close. It has been a year of real accomplishment in the field of activity.

Boston

The Annual Meeting of the Special Libraries Association of Boston was held on Saturday, May 22, 1926 at the Farm and Trades School, Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

About thirty-five members and guests were met at City Point by the Farm and Trades School steamer and taken to the island, where the school band of thirty pieces were at the wharf to greet the party and escort it to the school building where the hostess welcomed the group.

At the Chapel, Supt. Swasey added his word of greeting and then the annual business meeting was called to order. The following officers were elected for 1926-1927: President, Miss Margaret Withington, librarian, Social Service Library; Vice-President, Frederic A. Mooney, librarian, Dennison Mfg. Co.; Secretary, Miss Elizabeth Burrage, librarian, Administration Library, Boston School Committee; Treasurer, Vaudry L. Voigt, Edison Electric Illuminating Co. of Boston; Member of the Executive Committee, William Alcott, librarian, *The Boston Globe*.

The secretary gave her annual report, showing that there had been an average attendance at meetings throughout the year of fifty and that an average of forty-one had attended the suppers preceding the meetings. The report of the Membership Committee showed that twenty-nine new members had been added during the year. The Education Committee presented the results of a questionnaire on "Educational Work in Boston Special Libraries." The main heads covered were: planned reading, special classes, library publications, abstracting of articles, special notices to individuals, bulletin boards and other educational work. Other committee reports were read and acted on.

When the formal business meeting was over, Mr. Alcott, President of the Association read a paper on the Farm and Trade School and an opportunity was given for the group to visit the various buildings of the school.

A picnic supper was held on the lawn to

which the host and hostess added the typical Saturday night Boston Baked Beans as well as coffee and milk.

Chicago

The Illinois Chapter held a dinner meeting on May 12 at the Domestic Science Tea Room in Chicago. At a short business meeting following the dinner a report to the National Association covering the year's work was considered.

The annual meeting of the Chapter was held on June 4. The following officers were elected for the forthcoming year: President, Pyrrha B. Sheffield; Vice-President, Marion J. Reynolds; Secretary-Treasurer, Frances M. Cowan.

New York

Dr. Archibald Malloch, the librarian of the New York Academy of Medicine outlined the classification that Sir William Osler developed for the collection of medical books, which he gave to McGill University. In telling how he had to remain at Oxford to secure the aid of foreign and dead language professors to translate some of the books to make it possible to classify them and other similar details, he made his talk very interesting.

Mrs. Marion Brockway of the Metropolitan came to hear Dr. Malloch and was prevailed upon to tell interesting reminiscences of her acquaintance with Dr. Osler and his family. Mrs. Brockway took her nursing training under Sir William Osler at John Hopkins University. Mrs. Mellen, our former President—Juliet Handerson—whom we had expected to tell us about her experiences in Mexico, was ill and unable to be present.

The following officers were elected: President, Miss Mary Louise Alexander, Barton, Durstine & Osborn; Vice-Pres., Miss Elizabeth B. Wray, United States Rubber Company; Sec'y-Treas., Miss Josephine I. Greenwood, Consolidated Gas Co.; Members of Executive Board, Miss Rebecca B. Rankin and Miss Eleanor S. Cavanaugh.

Reports of the officers and chairmen of committees were read. The meeting was held at Town Hall and was unusually successful for the last meeting of the year, the attendance being nearly double that of the last meeting

a year ago, when only a business meeting was held.

Philadelphia

The annual meeting of the Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia and Vicinity was held on May 7, in the library of the Philadelphia Electric Company.

The meeting was opened by a general summary of the year's work by the chairman, followed by annual reports of the officers and committee chairmen.

The secretary's report showed eight regular meetings and one joint meeting with the Pennsylvania Library Club, with an average attendance of thirty-five. The collection of books and pamphlets on the subject of special libraries, which is housed at the secretary's office, and available for loan to persons seeking advice in installing libraries, was increased during the year by gifts from members of the Council, and was used frequently. The placement work for the year showed a slight increase over last year's in number of open positions and the number registering for positions.

The Directory Committee reported that final preparations for the publication of the 4th edition of the *Directory of Libraries of Philadelphia and Vicinity* were begun in November. Information for this edition has been accumulating ever since the present directory made its appearance in 1923. Groups were formed of the libraries representing engineering, chemistry, art, music, science, history, social service, medicine, education, these being the divisions to which most of the libraries to be listed in the new edition belong. Group chairmen were appointed and meetings with the committee were arranged. The purpose of these meetings was to afford an opportunity for the librarians to discuss their collections with relation to each other so that suitable subject headings might be determined under which the group would be adequately represented. After these group meetings, the editing began and the committee has held weekly meetings with the result that the publication of the new directory is expected in June.

The Periodical Committee reported real progress. Letters, telephone calls and personal visits resulted in valuable additions to the Council's "Union List," which now contains about sixteen hundred and seven cards.

A number more libraries are working on their cards, and the committee proposes to continue their work during the summer, hoping to report further success by October.

The Membership Committee reported eleven new members during the year, making a total of fifty-five paid-up active members. A number of members who had not paid dues for a year or more were dropped, but not before they were interviewed. The committee obtained in this manner a personal expression of their interest or lack of interest.

The Program Committee reported in full on the various meetings, and it showed how varied and interesting these were.

The Publicity Committee's contribution was a humble and contrite heart.

The following officers were elected for the year 1926-1927: Chairman, Miss Anna S. Bonsall, E. F. Houghton Company Library; Vice-Chairman, Miss Charlotte G. Noyes, librarian, Experimental Station Library, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company; Secretary, Miss Helen M. Rankin, chief, Municipal Reference Division, The Free Library of Philadelphia; Treasurer, Mrs. Gertrude W. Maxwell, librarian, Electric Storage Battery Company.

The business session was allotted a very limited time, when the meeting was turned into a reception for the incoming officers. Sinbad the Sailor was Master of ceremonies, while General Smedley Darlington Butler presided over the refreshments. Uncle Joe Cannon provided smokes for the motley array of mummies (in imagination). Only one untoward incident marred the harmony; Paul Pry's barks were so vociferous that it was necessary to transform him into the Dutchess Cam O'Flage.

Southern California

The regular meeting of the Special Libraries Association of Southern California was held in the library of the Los Angeles Museum of History, Science and Art, at Exposition Park on Friday evening, June 11. Dr. William Alanson Bryan, Director of the Museum, delivered the principal address. On account of the occasion, a number of special exhibits were placed on view in the rooms of the Museum. A special picnic supper at the library was enjoyed before the meeting.

We Do This

Margaret Reynolds, Department Editor

Speedac visible file. Another change made during the past year at the John Crerar Library is in the treatment of the Continuation Record. It was felt that quite a large proportion of the entries did not need the full amount of space provided on the blanks hitherto used for all. Some five thousand have been transferred to a much simpler record blank and filed in a Speedac Visible File. The resulting economy of space will enable the present equipment to meet all probable demands for many years; and, so far as a short trial of the plan can determine, with a gain rather than a loss in ease of entry and consultation.—*Clement W. Andrews, librarian.*

Who—What—Where. The title tells you exactly what our little card file is. We have many calls for addresses and names of bankers, financiers and others. To answer these calls, we have compiled a very workable list which is of great value and service to us. It is not possible to anticipate the future calls, so when we are asked for the name or address of one not in our file, a card is made out as soon as the necessary information is found. This file enables us to give the desired information in the quickest possible time. We try to keep our file up to date by noting changes of address and officers.—*Lydia M. Jacobus, librarian, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.*

Library Bulletin. Twice each month we send out a *Library Bulletin*, listing the magazine articles indexed since the last issue. In order that these cards may be available in the file and quickly sorted out when we are ready to type our bulletin, we place a Smith signal on the card as each entry is made.

On the first and fifteenth of each month, when we issue bulletins, we pull only the cards with signals, the stencil is cut, all signals are removed, the cards are returned to the file, and as each new article is indexed the signals are again used.

These can be obtained in various colors, so that one is able to work out many other uses for them in connection with card files.—*Emma M. Boyer, librarian, Union Trust Company, Cleveland.*

Librarian's petty cash account. In the preliminary edition of the reports of the president and other officials of the John Crerar Library, we learn of the establishment of a librarian's checking account, as part of the petty cash fund authorized by the Board upon the recommendation of the Committee on Finance. The arrangement has several advantages. It replaces for all petty cash disbursements in the United States and Canada payment by postal money orders. In so doing it makes a cash saving of the postal fee, recently increased to a minimum of 15c., a much larger saving of the time consumed in preparing the applications and securing the orders, and the avoidance of the great delay in replacing the occasional remittances which go astray. Moreover, it automatically gives the library satisfactory receipts for the remittances, whereas previously a certain number of payees neglected or refused to acknowledge payment of these small sums. The maximum amount of the account is \$100 but since it was opened in April, one hundred and forty-six checks have been drawn against it. The fees saved, therefore, have been over \$20, a very good return on the investment, disregarding the other advantages.—*Clement W. Andrews, librarian.*

Overdue material. A circulation of about twenty-four hundred a month requires a close watch of material. The following scheme was devised a year ago and works satisfactorily. Overdue charges are followed up every day as material becomes overdue, books after two weeks, magazines after one week. (Magazines circulating regularly to more than one person are followed up after the third day.)

The borrower is called on the telephone and if he says he will return the book the date of the call is written on the book card in red ink, a white steel signal is placed on the card which is then filed in the overdue file. All cards bearing white signals are followed up again within a few days by a second phone call. After this call red signals are placed on the cards instead of white and the cards returned to the overdue file.

Comparatively few books are kept out after the second call. These are followed up at

intervals of two or three days, if they are still unreturned and no satisfactory response is made the red signals are replaced by black. Cards bearing black signals are referred to the librarian for special attention.

Books sent out to various departments to be kept until called in by the library have blue signals placed on the book card when charged. In this way they can be found easily when needed for a hurry call from some other department. Cards for books charged to the staff have yellow signals. Other special charges are taken care of by various colors.—*Mary Hayes, librarian, The National City Financial Library.*

Contacts. We have developed a new hobby: it is "contacts." Of course all librarians have learned that answers to many problems are not always to be found in print, and it is necessary to get the opinions of authorities and often, too, it is wise to have the information we collect checked by experts. To simplify this procedure our Research Department has done two things:

(1) We have made it a point to join many associations, such as the United States Chamber of Commerce, American Management Association, American Statistical Association, Society for Electrical Development, and others. In the aggregate these cost us quite a lot each year, but have proved well worth the price in giving us access to original sources of information and acquaintance with specialists in various lines. Undoubtedly all firms belong to many such associations, but unless the librarian's name appears on their mailing list, she may never see the bulletins or reports issued. It is wise to have all company memberships entered in the name of the Library or Research Department.

(2) We have built up our own Who's Who of personal sources. We list, under *subjects*, the names of people who help us, what we have asked them, and when. Thus, when we have a knotty automobile problem, it is not necessary to telephone all the dozen or more automobile trade papers and associations in New York City because our list shows which ones specialize on different phases of this industry, and the name of the person in that organization who knows us, and will be most apt to help us. It is tremendously important that the people of whom you ask favors should know you.

We make a rule not to ask for help until we have exhausted our own resources. We try not to bother any one person too often; and we always offer to reciprocate if they will allow us to. No graceful gesture is ever wasted in this business of ours.—*Mary Louise Alexander, chief, Research Department, Barton, Durstine and Osborn.*

Facts to use for talks. For some time we have been furnishing little slips, 2x4 inches in size, containing concise notes for use in giving talks on various occasions. Men in the organization make considerable use of them in connection with their public addresses. They are mimeographed on bond paper and are handy to carry in the pocket. The items cover a wide range of subjects, especially matters relating to public utilities.—*Jennie Lee Schram, Illinois Light and Power Corporation.*

Editor's Desk

The editor regrets the long delay in presenting the June number to our readers. Mr. Vandegrift, compiler of the California material, submitted his copy promptly and the printer has forwarded his proofs within the usual period of time, but various causes have contributed to the delay of the number.

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The July issue will be a mid-summer book number and will contain reviews by various members of the SLA

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The editor has on his desk interesting manuscripts which space has not permitted reproducing in SPECIAL LIBRARIES. Our readers have already been given during the past twelve months one hundred more pages than in the previous year and there is a financial limitation which restricts the number of pages the magazine carries from month to month.

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The Library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics is at work on an Index to the state official sources of the agricultural statistics of California. This is not yet ready to be mimeographed but it is hoped to have it ready for distribution by the later part of the summer. It will be similar in character to the Alabama compilation recently issued by the Bureau.

Events and Publications

Rebecca B. Rankin, Department Editor

Have you read the article in *Science*, February 26, 1926, page 218, entitled "The Scope of Bibliographies?"

A new department in the *National Municipal Review* is one on Public Utilities, conducted by John Bauer, an expert consultant.

The Financial Statistics of Cities for 1924 from the Bureau of the Census is out.

The Sphinx Talks, issued by Miller, Franklin, Basset & Co., contains some interesting reprints on advertising methods.

Installment Selling Under Sound Banking Principles is Henry Ittleson's contribution to this mooted question of installment plan selling.

Michigan Manufacturer and Financial Record of March 20 presents a fine article by W. W. Bishop, librarian, on "University of Michigan Library Aids Industry."

In the *Monthly Labor Review*, March, 1926, there is a leading article "The Library of the United States Department of Labor," by Laura A. Thompson, the librarian.

Chicago Commerce of March 20, 1926, carries an article entitled "Business Survey to be Made by Library" which describes the new commercial activities of the American Library in Paris.

Pomeroy's *Causes of the Recent Stock Market Decline* published at Camden, South Carolina, suggests that the Stock Exchange be compelled to publish the standardized reports of corporations.

Louis Dubelin has been an authority on population for years, and his most recent contribution, *Population Problems in the United States and Canada* will be read with interest.

Have you seen the series of service monographs of the United States government issued by the Institute of Government Research?

They are being published by The Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore. Some of the most recent ones are: *Bureau of the Mint*, and *Office of the Comptroller of the Currency*. The history, activities and organization of each bureau or office are given.

The Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux (British) is advertising for a general editor to take charge of preparing a Special Libraries Directory for Great Britain and Ireland. The appointment will be for one year only as it is anticipated that the Directory may be completed in that time.

Illinois Libraries for April carries an article by Mary Bostwick Day, librarian of the National Safety Council on "Saving Time and Money—the Business Library."

The Open Shelf, Cleveland Public Library's bulletin for May, might almost be called the Business Man's number—it endeavors to show the service which the library is prepared to give the business man.

Nathan Van Patteh, librarian of Queens University, Kingston, Canada, has completed a bibliography, *The Literature of Lubrication* which he has been compiling for three years. It includes references for the years 1900 to date—a total of more than two thousand entries.

Journal of the Western Society of Engineers for March, 1926 carries an article, "Short History of the Development of the Library," by which they mean their own society's library. The library was established in 1878.

Michigan Business Studies is the title of a new series of bulletins which will set forth the results of studies in business problems made by the Bureau of Business Research of the University of Michigan School of Business Administration, Ann Arbor. Vol. 1, No. 1 is dated February, 1926, it is devoted to *The Life History of Automobiles*. Of course, Michigan's first contribution would be on that subject.

Dr. Geo. F. Bowerman has a well-written article, entitled "The Free Public Library," in *American Federationist* of May, 1926.

The Peoples' Gas Yearbook 1926 issued by the Peoples' Gas Light and Coke Co., Chicago is an annual report and statement in an unusually attractive form.

The Motion Picture is a monthly magazine of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., 469 Fifth Ave., New York City, which may be obtained free upon request.

Some special librarian may find the *Asphalt Periodical Index* published by the Asphalt Association, 441 Lexington Ave., New York City a useful quarterly index of current asphalt literature.

United States Department of Labor, Bulletin of the Women's Bureau No. 50, is devoted to a discussion of *Effects of Applied Research Upon the Employment Opportunities of American Women* which are found to be beneficial in many ways.

The Inter-ally Debts and the United States is the title of a volume issued by the National Industrial Conference Board in which the nature and significance of the debts for the American economic life are discussed.

The Vacation Service Bureau is responsible for a useful little book for everybody—1926 *Vacation Guide*. Resorts and their locations, places to stay and rates are given.

Trade Promotion Series No. 27 of the United States Foreign and Domestic Commerce Bureau contains a comprehensive survey of China's banking and financial systems—"Currency, Banking and Finance in China" by Frederic E. Lee.

Facts and Figures of the Automobile Industry 1926 has just been published by the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. It is a most useful manual of that industry.

McGraw's *Central Station Directory* 1926 is off the press.

The Municipal Index 1926, an annual publication by the *American City*, has been published.

Do you know the *Office Equipment Catalogue*? It's in its third edition. A condensation of trade catalogs for all kinds of office equipment may be needed by any special library. Address your request to Office Equipment Catalogue, Inc., 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

Transportation International which is the yearbook of the International Transportation Association, Washington, D.C. is one of the most useful reference books. It is compiled under the direction of Otto Baedeker and Associates. It tells "how to go, where to go, what to see"—covers the world, reporting hotels, their capacity and rates.

G. F. Barwick, late Keeper of the Printed Books at the British Museum, has been chosen as general editor of the new Directory which the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux is to publish. We congratulate the Association in having secured Mr. Barwick.

Business Research—Significance and Technique" by T. L. Kibler appears in the June number of *Social Forces*. It is a very good description of the technique of preparing bibliographies.

Robert J. Usher, reference librarian of the John Crerar Library, Chicago has won the first prize of \$100 in a contest for the best letters on the subject of *How I Use Crain's Market Data Book*. What special librarian does not use it, but we're glad Mr. Usher was clever enough to write about his use of it. The news of it is flashed in big headlines in *Class* for June, 1926.

"Wisconsin's Library School 20 Years Old" is a full-page illustrated article in the Sunday edition of a Milwaukee newspaper written by Margaret Reynolds, a graduate of that school who is librarian of the First National Wisconsin Bank, Milwaukee.

National Probation Association, 370 Seventh Ave., New York City, is responsible for the publication of *A Bibliography on Probation, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts, Crime, Psychiatric Treatment and Related Subjects*. It is a well selected list of the leading books, pamphlets and articles. Suggestions or corrections to the list are welcomed.

Personal Notes

As SPECIAL LIBRARIES is passing through the press, word comes that Miss Margaret C. Wells, an associate editor of the magazine, passed away on Monday, June 28. Miss Wells had not been in good health for some time, but her illness did not become serious until recently.

Miss Wells, prior to occupying the position of librarian with the American International Corporation, was identified with the Williamsburg Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library. When she entered the service of the American International Corporation, the library of the corporation was in its infancy, but with her usual energy and efficiency she made it a vital part of the organization. She was always an active member of the S.L.A., serving in various official capacities. In her service as associate editor she conducted this Department, always sending in material with commendable promptness. To many of the members her death will be a real personal loss.

Miss Eleanor Kerr, of Potter & Co., was elected president of the Women's Bond Club of New York at its annual meeting on May 12, 1926.

Miss Janet Doe, assistant librarian, Rockefeller Institute, has been appointed in charge of periodicals, Academy of Medicine Library, New York.

Mr. Walter F. Grueninger who is the library manager of the Franklin Square Subscription Agency and a radio reviewer of magazine articles and books, was married on Easter Eve, April 3, to Miss Hildegard Huetsch of Union City, New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Grueninger are taking a three months' trip through the south and middlewest broadcasting and calling on the trade in general.

Miss Adelaide Kight, formerly of the Newark Public Library, has been appointed industrial librarian of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York.

Miss Charlotte Hubach, formerly of the Brooklyn Public Library and more recently with the Travelers Insurance Company of New York, has accepted a position in the Treasurer's Department of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Miss Margaret Reynolds, librarian, First Wisconsin National Bank, spoke recently at the University of Arkansas on "Modern

Poets." She also spoke before the seniors of the Fayetteville High School on "Minor Modern Poets." Also lately, Miss Reynolds spoke before the St. Louis Library School, on the subject: "Special Library, Its Origin, Its Growth and Its Future."

Miss M. Clair Darby, who has been with the University of California, Southern Branch, resigned her position there and left for Cleveland, Ohio. She plans to sail on the 26th of June from Montreal for a three months' tour of the Continent.

Miss Mary Romona Bean has returned to Los Angeles to take charge of the Publicity Department of the Library Bureau. Miss Bean formerly had charge of the Library Department and went to San Francisco to carry on the same kind of work.

Mrs. Irish, librarian of the Barlow Medical Library, left May 1, 1926, for Des Moines, where she will spend her vacation. Combining business with pleasure, she plans to go on to Ann Arbor, where she will attend the Medical Library meeting.

Miss Ruth H. Parker, has been added to the library staff of Boston University College of Business Administration, succeeding Mrs. Sadie A. Maxwell, resigned. Miss Edith Iilsley has joined the library staff as cataloger.